

# THE Hongkong Weekly Press

## AND China Overland Trade Report.

Vol. LX.]

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### BIRTHS.

On the 19th September, at Shanghai, the wife of FRANCIS ELLIS, of a son.  
On the 19th September, at Chefoo, the wife of GUSTAV GIPPERICH, of a daughter.  
On the 19th September, at Shanghai, the wife of M. W. TEIFFENBERG, of a son.  
On the 20th September, at Shanghai, the wife of WALTER REGINALD PARKIN, of a son.  
On the 20th September, at the Victoria Hospital, Barker Road, the wife of YOUNG HEE, of a daughter.  
On the 20th September, at Shanghai, the wife of JAMES KERFOOT, of a daughter.  
On the 22nd September, at Shanghai, the wife of P. ZURN, of a son.  
On 25th September, at Shanghai, the wife of EUG. HYNDMAN, Jr., of a son.

### MARRIAGES.

On the 14th September, at Yokohama, NATHANIEL GEORGE, youngest son of the late FRANCIS MAITLAND, of London, to ELEANOR ISABELLA, only daughter of OTIS AUGUSTUS POOLE, of Yokohama.  
On the 19th September, at Shanghai, ROBERT, eldest son of the late R. I. LENT, to MARY, eldest daughter of T. MACMURRAY.  
On the 20th September, at Shanghai, ALLAN S. MALCOLM, son of the late WALTER MALCOLM, Glasgow, to ISABELLA JACK, daughter of GEORGE FRASER, Mount Florida, Glasgow.  
On the 22nd September, at the Chel Leah Synagogue, GUSTAV EHRIG, from Kobe, to Miss PAULINE SCHAPIRA, from Paris.  
On the 24th September, at St. John's Cathedral, Hongkong, by the Rev. F. T. Johnston, JOHN SCOTT HARSTON, eldest son of GEORGE ALFRED HARSTON, of Wentworth House, Harrogate, to MABEL HILDA, youngest daughter of the late Hon. C. S. DICK-MELBOURNE, M.L.C., of Rockhampton, Queensland.

### DEATHS.

On the 18th September, at Lausanne, Switzerland, ANNA CASSEMENT SMEDLEY, late of Shanghai.  
On 25th September, at the International Cotton Mill, Footung, FANNY CURRIE, aged 39 years.  
On 26th September, at Shanghai, JOH. NÖLTING, aged 64 years.  
On the 26th September, at the Government Civil Hospital, LAWRENCE MALLORY, aged 58 years.

### Hongkong Weekly Press.

HONGKONG OFFICE: 14, DES VŒUX ROAD CL.  
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### ARRIVAL OF MAILS.

The German Mail arrived, per the s.s. *Zieten*, on Tuesday, the 27th of September; and the French Mail of the 17th of September is due to arrive, per the s.s. *Capri*, on the 4th inst.

### EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The Italian Minister in Peking seems to have been greatly perturbed by a talk-of Boxer rising in Honan, which, however, did not take place.

The Japanese have effected a beneficial change along the Liaotung coast in regard to piracy, having dispersed many of the bands around Newchwang.

A large meeting of high-caste Hindus was held at Poona on the 26th July to celebrate the anniversary of the Act permitting high-caste Hindu widows to remarry.

The steamer *Ascot* arrived at Durban on the 22nd Sept. and delivered all the coolies well. The *Swanley* sailed from Chin Wan Tao for Durban on the 24th ult. with 2,250 coolies on board.

It is reported that 21 Japanese gendarmes have been killed by insurgents at Gilan in Formosa. These gendarmes were part of a squadron of 70 engaged in searching for disaffected persons.

It is stated, says the *China Review*, that a sister of Prince Mirski, the newly-appointed Russian Minister of the Interior, is a Sister in the General Hospital in Shanghai, and is much loved for her kindness and nursing ability.

The Waiwupu, upon the receipt of the full text of the Anglo-Tibetan Treaty on the 7th ult., wired to Yu Tai to the effect that he must not sign the treaty as there are points contrary to China's sovereign rights.—*Universal Gazette*.

Owing to the Macao Government's delay in handing over the ex-Namhoi Magistrate to the Viceroy at Canton it is rumoured that several promised concessions, including the water supply concession, are being withheld by the Chinese Government.

A quantity of four-inch shells and small ammunition—surrendered to the American forces in 1898—while being loaded on to lighters preparatory to dumping in the bay, exploded in front of the Arsenal, at the mouth of the Pasig River, killing two and mangling seven Filipinos.

Mad dogs are one disagreeable feature of life at Bangkok. Several cases of hydrophobia are reported. Early this month Mr. R. G. Macfarlane, of the Bombay Burma Trading Corporation, was bitten there by his own dog. He has gone to Saigon for the Pasteur treatment.

A Korean named Riyukio, who returned from Russia on the 5th Sept., has been received in audience by the Korean Emperor, to whom he delivered a secret message from the Russian Government. It is said that the communication is of a kind to considerably retard the carrying out of a progressive programme in Corea.

Out of thirteen culprits who murdered Catholic priests at Shih-nan, and were sentenced to be decapitated, ten have been already arrested and three are still missing. After due consultation with the French Secretary of the Legation at Peking eight of the culprits were decapitated and two have been ordered to be tried at Ichang again.—*Universal Gazette*.

In the opinion of the editor of our local contemporary *Cheung-kok-po* ("The China") there will be another Boxer outbreak after the Japan-Russo War. In the same manner that Minister Kong Hi was sent to South China to raise funds for military purposes before the Boxer trouble, Tit Leung has left on a similar mission. The Kwangsi rebels are at present creating considerable disturbance, not only in Kwangsi Province itself, but also in a part of Kwangtung.

The sixty-one Russian marines, with four officers, who were brought to Hongkong by the s.s. *Humber*, and interned here, left the Commodore's ship *Tanar* on the 26th ult. for the quarters prepared for them at King's Park, Kowloon. Military transport officers superintended their removal to the camp of internment, the moving occupying about an hour. Very comfortable quarters they found in the cantonment, where they may have to abide a very long time. The officers have spring mattresses and mosquito nets, and the men can scarcely complain at the accommodation provided.

The quick-firing guns which Reuter refers to as having been ordered at Woolwich for India are, says the *Straits Times*, merely part of a consignment for the re-arming of the Indian field batteries for which provision was made in Sir Edward Law's last Budget. The only urgency about their supply is to enable them to be completed and paid for before the close of the current official year, when in accordance with the existing Indian custom any unspent portion of the grant sanctioned for their purchase will lapse. The order sent home was for the re-arming of both the Field and Horse Batteries in India, and the number of guns requisite for this purpose is so large that it is by no means an easy matter to get them all completed and sent out before next April.

A rather serious quarrel occurred between Italian and Chinese soldiers at Peking. A company of the former were on the glacis, or drill grounds just north of the Legation quarter, engaged in drilling and gymnastics. Two Chinese soldiers were among the bystanders watching the exercises when, it is said, one of them made some uncomplimentary remarks concerning the Italian drilling. They then went inside the enclosure, when the Italian soldiers ordered them from the ground because of their not being in uniform. This angered the Chinese soldiers, and one of them took off his belt and struck an Italian soldier in the face. The Chinese then started to run away, but one of them was captured. Ten Italians were detailed to pursue the other soldier, which they did as far as General Chiang's Yamen. The Italians fired their rifles in the air, forced their way past the sentry, and met the General, who ordered them from the place. The Italians departed. Fortunately a company of Chinese soldiers which is quartered at the General's Yamen were out at target practice. Had they been at home there might have been serious trouble. No satisfactory settlement has as yet been made of the matter.—*Mercury*.



## FOOT BINDING

(Daily Press, 26th September.)

A fashion in China, as elsewhere, must die hard. Indeed in the Central Kingdom a fashion is apt to become crystallised into an unbreakable custom. The queue, designed by the first Manchu EMPEROR as a badge of subjection to his dynasty, has become a habit which even an Imperial Decree would probably fail to abolish unless obedience were exacted by a swift and terrible penalty. The custom of foot-binding, though less national and characteristic, is one that holds the female population in fetters of steel. The persuasions of friends, the advice of officials, the commands of an Empress, have alike proved powerless to enforce abolition of this cruel and barbarous practice. The Society formed through the efforts of the missionaries and others to influence public opinion against the custom, succeeded at length in bringing the EMPRESS DOWAGER over to their view, and Her Majesty went so far as to issue a decree prohibiting foot-binding, and setting forth the evils arising from the practice, much to the satisfaction of those persons who had engineered the crusade against it. But even Her Majesty's influence has not, it would seem, proved potent enough to stop a fashion that has grown into a custom as inviolable as the laws of the ancient Medes and Persians were said to be. So at least we are driven to conclude from a memorial recently presented to the Throne on the subject by His Excellency CHOU FU, the Governor of Shantung.

In the course of his memorial the Governor of Shantung complains that notwithstanding the issue of the Empress's strict commands forbidding the practice of foot-binding, he finds that only about one in every ten families in his province have obeyed the Imperial injunction. They give as their excuse for this disobedience their fear that if their female children are allowed to have natural-sized feet it would be impossible to get them married. The memorialist goes on to express the opinion that the majority of the upper classes recognise the folly and cruelty of binding their children's feet, and obey the Imperial Edict on the matter; it is among the lower and less educated classes that resistance to the Empress's commands is encountered. These people cling tenaciously to "old custom," and while the terms of the Edict remain as they are there seems little likelihood of obedience being secured. It seems that the EMPRESS DOWAGER, knowing the bent of the official mind, was afraid if power were given to the officials to compel parents to desist from the practice of foot-binding it might lead to a new source of wrong and oppression, as it probably would by the yamen underlings promptly making it an excuse for squeezing. Accordingly the Edict specially prohibited officials from interfering in the matter, leaving it to the good feeling of the parents and their natural affection for their offspring to induce them to abandon a practice condemned by the Empress and by common sense. His Excellency CHOU FU, while stating that this should be sufficient to ensure discontinuance of a pernicious custom, is obliged to admit that it has not proved so, and proceeds to consider what can be done to prevent the Imperial commands in the matter becoming a dead letter. He is evidently afraid to recommend anything of a drastic or even a decided character, for after all his cogitation he can only evolve the following suggestion, viz., that "another decree be issued by Her Majesty again exhorting parents to refrain from the cruel practice,

and strictly enjoining upon all respectable people to refuse to marry into their families any girl with bound feet." In this way he hopes that in time the practice of foot-binding will die out of itself without resorting to physical punishments and fines on obdurate and benighted parents.

If this is the best course His Excellency CHOU FU can propose it is evident that this great and much-to-be-desired reform will be a long time coming. An Imperial Decree, when not backed with the material might of the Government, is pretty sure to be disregarded. Probably no race has so little respect for their rulers as the Chinese; commands are obeyed only when they can be enforced by the myrmidons of the law. No people probably take so many risks of punishment, the gambling instinct in the Celestial extending to his defiance of the law. Unless therefore Her Majesty the EMPRESS DOWAGER's interest in this reform prompts her to go further than the timid advice of the Governor of Shantung will lend, it is not likely that it will make much progress. The example of retaining the female foot at its natural size, if generally set by the higher classes, might have some effect in time, but it would be years before it could leaven the lump. There is no reason why the EMPRESS DOWAGER should not now again formally prohibit the practice, and then issue a further decree to the effect that on account of the cruelty to children involved in the process of binding the feet, and the fact that it constitutes them cripples for life, it cannot be permitted, and its infliction in future will be regarded as a crime against the State and therefore be punished condignly. Brought face to face with a rigid alternative, even Chinese obstinacy would have to give way, and in a very short time—a decade at the most—the small foot which now disfigures the vast majority of Chinese females would cease to be perpetuated.

## MORE MISSIONARIES.

(Daily Press, 27th September.)

The ordination of two more missionaries at St. John's Cathedral on Sunday morning is capable of suggesting more thoughts than it is perhaps expedient to utter. The fact that the Rev. PERCY JENKINS of Hongkong and the Rev. HERBERT BULLER RIDLER of Foochow have just publicly undertaken to be faithful ministers of JESUS CHRIST is not so uncommon an occurrence that it can occasion remark. It is possibly because such vows are so common that their great significance is apt to be lost sight of. These gentlemen have, if we do not misread the Book that is their chief guide and counsel for the fulfilment of their pledges, promised to abstain from laying up for themselves treasures on earth. The missionary above all men is supposed to approximate most nearly to the character of the first Disciples who went out into the highways and by-ways to invite guests to the table of the Lord. We can only suppose that the recent statement in the *North-China Daily News*, to the effect that certain missionaries fleeing from native violence in South China had been busily amassing property, was a misrepresentation, made either in malice or mistake. For the missionary takes no thought for things of the earth, earthly. He meddles never with politics, but (in China) busies himself pointing out to the Chinese the deadly peril in which they stand, in regard to all that matters, when they continue hearkening to the false doctrines of the native priests. He shows to the benighted heathen, moreover, a blessed way of escape from the wrath to come; and

by the invariable serenity of his countenance, and the precision of his footsteps in that straight and narrow road which reckons none of creature comforts or worldly gains, he demonstrates to the admiring heathen how much more blessed it is to give than receive. Self-sacrifice is his watchword, and the Chinese, seeing him descending to their own lowly level, humbling himself even as the Master humbled Himself to wash the feet of the Disciples, cannot but believe that this faith he brings them is a living faith, that must still all murmurings incidental to the earthly pilgrimage. When he encounters violent, wicked men—as he must, seeing that neither the peaceful inaction of *Lao Tze* nor the self-restraint of CONFUCIUS has had power to bind all—he will still hold fast to the truth that is in him, and return good for evil, and blessings for revilings. The *Shanghai Mercury* last week says that the friction between Catholics and Protestants in Hupeh is causing great trouble, but that again must be a mischievous mistake. Christians, whatever their particular creed, even if they did not recognise the evil effects of such an example upon such Chinese as are halting between two (or more) opinions, would never be guilty of making trouble. It has been said that Christianity brings not peace, but the sword; but that means only the sword of faith with which to combat sin. Or it may have been a figurative way of telling the early Christians that the sword would fall upon them for their faith's sake, and that they were not to mind, for the sword could hurt only their physical body, and never their spiritual body. These missionaries would never give a moment's thought to possible physical sufferings, and they would certainly not dream of resenting it. Christianity is "passive resistance" in the highest, and to its follower death is not loss, but gain. Has not a certain missionary body recently, while collecting subscriptions for a Martyrs' Memorial, thanked God that so many missionaries and women and children were privileged to die for the cause? Truly, it is a great vow that these two men have taken, and we marvel greatly that their heroism (as we regard it) has not been the occasion of a greater noise. Those erring men who see in such efforts the directest threatment of the integrity of China should ponder the self-abnegation involved in leaving all that worldlings treasure to follow the rewardless and thorny path of duty.

## THE PREMIER AS PHILOSOPHER.

(Daily Press, 28th September.)

Those who do not admire the British Premier's ability as a statesman have a disrespectful way of referring to his philosophical bent as something unmeet in a man upon whom rests responsibility for great practical affairs. Rightly regarded, however, there is surely something to be admired in the man who can leave Downing Street, where he has been preoccupied with the political interests of a great nation, to travel down to Cambridge to address a body like the British Association on such a subject as "Reflections suggested by the New Theory of Matter." We are not in a position to state that Mr. BALFOUR literally went direct from one place to the other; but it is figuratively correct to express in that way the remarkable transition from one phase of thinking to another, diametrically opposed as those phases are. It is indeed a far cry from the theory of the physical universe to the theory of contraband; and in these stirring times we need an example like that



of the Prime Minister to encourage the faculty of mental detachment that is as necessary for perfect sanity as physical exercise is for health. We have been familiarised with the axiomatic value of attention by the petty tradesman commencing, who, in his announcement to the public, usually promises the quality in its strictest form. A learned Frenchman (RIBOT) in a study of the psychology of attention has, however, defined it in such a way as to quite unintentionally awaken us to the risk we run in adapting ourselves too much to a predominating thought. Whereas inattention leads to incoherence, vagueness, and error, attention overdone may become monomania. The danger of war for breakfast, war for tiffin, war for dinner, and war for "between meals," as MARK TWAIN would put it, ought to be sufficiently obvious to excuse a digression in the direction of a topic whose usefulness to the average man may not be *prima facie* apparent.

If MR. BALFOUR has been correctly reported, he has given utterance to some remarks (they can scarcely be called ideas) which will not commend him either as an original or sound philosopher. It may be, supposing we are able to demonstrate his rashness, that it can be taken as an argument against the value of distraction; or, on the other hand, that the Premier's temporary departure from statecraft is not a genuine case of relaxation, but a return to a first love already wooed with excessive assiduity. We are unable to see any particular movement in advance in the statement that the object of present-day physical speculation is something more than the discovery of the laws connecting phenomena; that "it is the physical reality constituting the permanent mechanism of the physical universe." Therein MR. BALFOUR has probably suffered at the hands of the reporters. We hope so, for the dictum is indicative more of an attack of logorrhœa than of a flight of inspiration. In the summarised report before us, MR. BALFOUR is credited with "describing the theory of the physical universe which obtained about the end of the 18th century," and with "pointing out how that conception had been modified by the development of the theory of the universal diffusion of ether through space, and by the discovery of the part played in nature by electricity. Two centuries ago electricity seemed but a scientific toy. It was now thought by many to constitute the reality of which matter was but the sensible expression." Up to the point where we encounter the somewhat startling reversal of terms with regard to matter and its expressions, we are on safe premises; and it is therefore disconcerting to find the lecturer quarrelling with inductive logic, and denying its usefulness in dealing with "the problems suggested by the new theories." Since the new theories, the electro-etheral hypotheses with which MR. BALFOUR is presumably enamoured, were not reached in a strictly legitimate manner, we presume inductive logicians will have no dealings with their "problems." The saner scientists are not like the Old Testament kings. The dream that is dreamed suggests no problem to them. It seems a little hard on inductive logic to twit it with impotence in the matter of questions that do not arise in its own province.

It would almost appear after all that our comfortable fancies with regard to detachment and relaxation were unhealthy, and that the philosophic or political shoemaker would do better to "stick to his last." Those very misconceptions catalogued by MR. BALFOUR as appertaining to the 18th century were

due to defective or incomplete observation of phenomena. As time goes on, and fresh phenomena are disclosed (as radium) we still have to depend upon our inductive crutches, reasoning from the whole of the particulars, new and old, to the general. What other course is open to us MR. BALFOUR does not seem clearly to have indicated. In his conclusion that "there is a certain inevitable incoherence in any general scheme of thought which is built out of materials provided by natural science alone," he seems to us to have done no more than give a verbose rendering of the thought supposed to be embodied in HAMLET's famous remark to HORATIO. This, while pretty enough in poetry, is not the lucidity and definiteness we expect from our philosophers; and if such obscure representations arising in consciousness are to be dignified with the name of "reflections," what are we to expect from the same mind applied to practical, everyday concerns, in which we are more immediately interested? Wonderful as are the later discoveries of science, we must not repeat the errors of our ancestors, and imagine that they have brought us to finality. The British Association has on several occasions gone too fast, and MR. BALFOUR's reputed deliberate judgment did not prevent him, apparently, on August 17th, from encouraging that weakness. He would, unless we have misread him, impatiently carry us from the one extreme of the encyclopedists to the other extreme of "Mother" EDDY and her disciples. The work of science as we have learned to think of it is not the throwing of a bridge across to some further shore that is seen and known, but the cautious building of a pier, stone by stone, out into the uncharted sea. We are already abutting on what was once presumptuously styled the Unknowable, and having come so far, we take it unkindly of MR. BALFOUR to find fault with the methods of the builders, just because the pier of Truth is not completed in time for the meeting of the British Association!

#### THE COTTON GROWING ASSOCIATION.

(Daily Press, 28th September.)

It may be that we are wrong, but we do not at present see our way to agree with the general principle enunciated by an expert contributor to the *London Times*, that the work of such a body as the Cotton Growing Association should be of an educational, rather than of a purely commercial character. Or, on further reflection, we would suggest that the methods of the Association appear to embrace both those features, and that the word "purely," as applied to the commercial enterprises of the Association, is misplaced. Is not the practice of the Cotton Growing Association, in growing and selling cotton, as inseparable from the encouragement of cotton culture by natives and settlers, as faith is from works? If example be better than precept, then there could be no better way of advancing its objects than by showing that cotton can not only be grown in our colonies and dependencies, but that it can be grown and sold profitably. Plantations managed by the most modern methods, and with the most practical types of implements and machinery, are the best kind of object-lesson the cotton "griffin" could possibly have.

The need for new sources of supply has not become apparent because of any sudden and temporary interference with existing sources, as it was when the American Civil War caused such distress in Lancashire. The demand, we are told, has grown larger than it ever was in the history of cotton

manufacturing, and as the world's largest suppliers, we should be setting about the ensurance of a permanent supply of the raw material, from sources less likely to be shut to us during unforeseen embarrassments such as have brought the question into prominence.

It is of particular interest, in view of local hopes and enterprises, to note the result of investigations and experiments that have been made in other districts that are under the British flag. It is a striking fact that in the majority of our territories abroad the natives have been cultivating cotton, by rule of thumb of course, since times long prior to our advent. In certain parts of West Africa it has been ascertained that cotton has been grown for over a thousand years. As it is established that such a large proportion of Greater Britain enjoys those conditions of soil and climate that are essential to the profitable culture of the cotton plant, it should be equally well recognised that we are in a position to make ourselves much less dependent upon foreign cultivators. Moreover, used as our manufacturers are to the particular product of the American cotton fields, those who have been experimenting and investigating tell us now that we should not have to trouble about acclimatising *Gossypium Americanus*, which, by the way, was itself probably of Asiatic origin. Indeed, they assure us that better practical results are obtained by avoiding exotic varieties, and improving the species indigenous to most of the colonies where the cultivation is to be extended. The Germans hit upon the same important discovery as a result of their most thorough and exhaustive experiments in Togo-land, between our Gold Coast Settlements and Dahomey. The experts assure us that most of the cotton so raised will meet all the requirements of the spinners at Home, and that the quantity will undoubtedly maintain pace with the quality. In any case, it is to be remembered that "a shortage of supply in any one particular quality leads to an increased demand for the quality either immediately above or immediately below it, thus increasing the pressure in regard to either or both of those qualities, as well as the one directly concerned. In the same way any largely increased supply in the case of one quality may leave a surplus which will relieve the demand for the next qualities; while, still further, cotton which did not suit Lancashire might serve the purposes of Eastern or Continental markets, and allow of a larger supply of American being available for general use." Whatever drawbacks may appear to those who are not yet impressed by the arguments adduced, we do not imagine that any Britishers can be found who do not heartily wish success to attend the efforts of the Cotton Growing Association.

#### THE CHINAMAN ABROAD.

(Daily Press, 29th September.)

The Chinaman from the oldest times has had a tendency to spread himself abroad. In theory he is expected to stay at home to add to the strength and dignity of the Celestial Empire; and by her ancient laws China forbade the emigration of her children. In this, however, as in so many other things "L'homme propose, et Dieu dispose." Laws or no laws, a redundant population becomes a force which cannot be restrained, and which is certain to find its outlet in one direction or another. A Chinaman, with his practical instincts, considers that emigration; like other good things, should begin at home, and if he cannot afford to pay for the shelter



of a roof ashore, contents himself with living in a boat. Incipient emigration of this kind is to be seen in the form of the large sampan population at almost every Chinese port. A vast number of the very poor in China manage to exist in this amphibious way; but it is not surprising that it should occur to some of them that they might possibly go a little further and have a chance of faring better with little possibility of faring worse.

Long before emigration in foreign ships began the Chinese had commenced to spread themselves in their own junks to foreign ports. Necessity, proverbially a strong motive power, has proved sufficient long ago to overcome the prejudice of the Chinese against leaving their country; and the tide of emigration seems likely nowadays to continue unabated, and, as time goes on, will become one of increasing importance in connection with foreign relations. That the interests of civilization rendered it imperative that Europeans should have the right to enter China for trading and other legitimate objects has long been accepted as a logically established truth. But there is a general idea that logic is being pushed a little too far, when it is suggested that by parity of reasoning, the Celestial ought to have a similar right to go to foreign lands. In places even where the Chinaman or someone similar to him is urgently wanted, people puzzle their heads to devise means of reducing his presence to a *minimum* and his labour to a *maximum*. They wish to have his assistance in the rough work connected with developing a mine or constructing a railway, but they object to "his ways and his tricks and his manners." It cannot be said that there is not some foundation for the objections, but for the most part those which are raised are grossly exaggerated—and the best proof of this is to be found in the fact that so long as important work has to be done, a *modus vivendi* can be found. It is when the work is finished that the faults of the Chinaman become so glaringly manifest. Still this feeling is a fact which has to be dealt with. It is difficult to get workmen in America, and still more so to get the British workmen in our Colonies, to view the matter from an impartial standpoint, and the British workman is the person who, in most of the Colonies, has the largest say. This is especially the case in Australia, and it seems likely to be so before very long in South Africa. From the former Colony, the Chinaman is excluded as far as is possible by restrictive laws, and, if he were not urgently wanted for the mines there is little doubt he would be as rigorously kept out of the latter. As was pertinently observed by an American humorist, the Chinaman is more disliked for his qualities than for his faults. The chief ground of opposition to him is his competition with foreigners. His habits and his heathendom are mainly enlarged upon; but his unpardonable sin is his competition with foreign workmen or traders. So long as this idea is firmly rooted in the minds not only of working men, but also, to a great extent, in those of the governing classes, there is little hope of the question of Chinese immigration into the Colonies being placed upon a satisfactory footing. It has been said that there is nothing which it is so difficult to dislodge as a religious dogma; but it may be doubted whether certain political prejudices are not equally difficult to dissipate. Among the accepted theories of this kind is the idea that the Chinaman's work must of necessity be to the injury of the European. At first sight, this appears to be almost incontestible; but it is still open to question whether

time may not to some extent modify this view. What is overlooked is that work of one kind being done suitably by a class best fitted to perform it has the effect of making other work fitted to another class available which would otherwise not be possible of performance. A great part of the work done by Chinese in tropical or semi-tropical climates simply cannot be performed by Europeans at all; but, once done, it may open up fields of employment which would otherwise not exist. It is, however, to be feared that it will be a long time before so liberal a view as this is likely to be generally adopted; and it would be too much to hope that some knotty questions will not from time to time arise in the interim. It cannot be denied that there is an inconsistency in the position of foreign nations steadily demanding rights as to trade and residence in China, and at the same time only granting grudgingly, at all events, a certain class of rights to the Chinese in their own countries; and it would be a satisfaction to fair-minded politicians if this anomaly could be removed. It is impossible not to sympathise to some extent with those who are opposed to the introduction of Chinese upon social and economical grounds, even if we cannot admit the strict correctness of their position; and no one would wish that their views should be overriden upon mere abstract ground. Grand generalisations as to equality of all people, and the like, may be as wide of the mark as the conclusion that the Chinese should be excluded on the simple ground that they are undesirable competitors. But the matter is one which will have to be dealt with with temperance and statesmanship in both its aspects, and extreme views on either side will not tend to solve the difficulty. One troublesome feature in it is that the decision of the question does not depend alone upon the Imperial Government. The independence of the Colonies in matters affecting them internally has to be respected; but it is the Imperial Government which has to deal with China on the subject; and unless it is carefully handled it is one in which there is likely to be a divergence between the Home Authorities and the Colonies. As time progresses some general rule may be recognised that will be acceptable to both. Such, for example, that there should not be a total prohibition of the immigration of Asiatics in any Colony, though restrictive measures designed to keep such immigration within reasonable limits might be adopted. What these should be in any given case must still be a somewhat nice question to decide; but if the matter be handled with care and in a fairly liberal spirit, there is no reason for apprehension that this point cannot be gradually settled, by practice, though it may seem impossible to adjust it upon any purely abstract principles.

#### WATCHING AN UNSEEN WAR.

(Daily Press, 30th September.)

The London *Times*, in a three-and-a-half-column length article, claims to have employed wireless telegraphy, or rather wireless telephony, for the first and last time as an adjunct of journalism in wartime. It seems rather premature to say that the first experiment will also prove to have been the last, especially in view of the successful report contributed by its special correspondent at Weihaiwei. This report forms a valuable advertisement of the virtues of Dr. De Forest's system, and is very interesting reading in itself. It appears that the *Times* correspondent met Dr. De Forest on the Atlantic liner, and that on their way to New York, having discussed

the prospects, the inventor guaranteed that if the correspondent would erect masts 180 feet high at both transmitting and receiving stations, the Dr. De Forest Company would supply apparatus that would operate with certainty over a distance not less than two hundred miles. As a matter of fact, messages were eventually carried a distance of 210 miles, accurately, and that with hills sometimes intervening. Weihaiwei was chosen for a base because the chief interest of the war was anticipated to centre, for the first six months at least, in and about the Yellow Sea and the Gulf of Pechili. In spite of "considerable pressure" put upon him to establish the station elsewhere, the correspondent, as is well known, erected his mast (higher than the average church steeple) on the island of Liu-kung-tau, which practically forms the harbour at Weihaiwei. It was by no means a simple operation, and after numerous difficulties and accidents had been overcome, it was found that an important, though small, piece of the electrical plant, the electrical exciter, had been lost in transit. Without this essential it was impossible to transmit messages from the shore station to the vessel, though it would be possible to receive messages from sea.

However, even that trouble was overcome, and in 26 days, only five more than the company's contractors usually stipulate for, the station was in working order. One drawback mentioned is rather curious, when we remember that Dr. De Forest insists on a height of at least 180 feet for the standards. It is stated that a headland well above sea level is not the most suitable site for a station, as at first thought we would naturally suppose. At Weihaiwei, they were a hundred feet above the water, thereby, it is suggested, "causing difficulty in the ground contact." Though they were able to transmit, by means of their 102ft. exposure of wire on board the ship, messages which the receiving station could take easily over 100 miles, they could not receive a reply beyond 60 miles, and sometimes, when the weather was bad, not at all. March 17th is the notable date on which a really important war message, conveyed by the new medium, was first published; and sad to relate, the *Times* did not realize the importance of the occasion. Owing to a misunderstanding, the message was given as if it had been sent direct from Wei-hai-wei, whereas it had really travelled seventy-five miles first from the *Haimun*. This despatch reported the landing of Japanese at Chinampo. For nearly a month (March 21st to April 13th) although hovering about in sight of Port Arthur, the *Haimun* rarely saw a Russian vessel. It appears that the apparatus was really as useful in the matter of "eavesdropping" as it was in transmitting the news obtained. The Russian and Japanese messages could not be improperly used, as they were all in cipher, but they could easily recognize the difference in the systems employed, and by this means they were able approximately to tell the distance they were from the various ships. Moreover, the operator, who was extremely expert, began to recognize the notes of various ships. That is to say, he could tell if a Russian ship was at sea by listening for the answering communication from the shore. He could also detect whether the Japanese messages were being transmitted by relay to the naval base or whether the fleet itself was at sea. Thus the *Haimun* frequently knew exactly what course to steer to be "in at the death." The *Times* operator was careful to abstain from using his instrument until the battleships were duelling with the



forts, as it would have been manifestly unfair to send news of the position of the rival fleets, which either could have tapped and made use of strategically. So they listened instead. The Russians were repeating the alphabet over and over again in order to "queer" the Japanese recording instruments. The *Times* correspondent makes a remark suggestive of unexpected uses to which the new invention may be put. He says:—"I am not sure it was not the constant use made by the Russians of their shore stations that prevented Togo from coming up in time to catch MAKAROFF's squadron outside. There is some discrepancy in the times given when the Japanese decoy squadron sent its messages to Togo and when MAKAROFF decided that he was too far out at sea and reshaped his course towards Port Arthur. It was only when the Russians stopped their 'queering' process in order to receive a message from the *Bayan* that the Japanese second-class cruiser squadron was able to get an interval in which to send its all-important message. We received both messages, the Japanese, of course, being in their own private cipher, that from the *Bayan* being half in cipher, with a few words in French, and signed 'B.A.' But when once Togo had hoisted his fighting flags and sailed in under the guns of Port Arthur we felt that we were justified in sending just a short message, and so at 9.15 we sent a brief report from within seven miles of Port Arthur, which furnishes the first record of a wireless message reporting a naval engagement being sent direct from the scene of operations to the office of the journal which was to give it to the public."

## HONGKONG JOTTINGS.

26th September.

I learn that a local man who recently approached the Government asking their sanction to the establishment of a servants' registry has received a reply from the Colonial Secretary intimating that there are no regulations existing to debar such a movement and wishing the promoters success in their attempts to benefit the public. Apparently we have been trusting too much to the Legislature and its come-to-nothing Bills, whilst all the time having the remedy in our own hands. I hear it has been tried once, and failed; but properly managed, I have little doubt that the project will be a success, despite the almost certain opposition that the guilds will have to it, for there is hardly a householder in the Colony who has not at some time or other paid dearly for taking on Chinese servants without references.

I was somewhat surprised the other day to see a common or garden kind of Chinese coolie, with neither uniform nor distinguishing mark on his flopping raiment, carrying a black despatch box marked "The Government, Hongkong," in the casual way that marks the genus. Now I do not think it is either safe or seemly to entrust a Government despatch box to such very irresponsible hands. Surely there should be an Indian orderly or responsible servant in livery to take charge of the Governor's documents. That the said coolie was not sitting down on the box by the wayside smoking or chattering to his fellows was at least remarkable. I am bound to say that he was carrying it, and not using it; whether he would get to Mountain Lodge without the usual halts by the way for a smoke and for a nap is problematical. In any case, it would look more dignified for such property to be placed in more responsible hands.

The electric tram cars have now been running for some time, and I have been wondering when they were going to be of any practical use to Europeans in the Colony. I am quite aware that it is no easy matter to get a concern such as this into good running order, but I do not

think I can be accused of impatience if I permit myself to say that it is about time a regular time table was issued and adhered to. Up to the present one may have to wait two minutes or twenty for a car, as they seem to run in batches of two or three, with a prodigious interval between the arrival of the next lot. Now if this kind of thing is to continue, from a European point of view, the electric trams, with their thunderous rumbling and incessant gong-sounding, might just as well have kept away from Hongkong. Moreover, prior to the advent of the trams we all thought that by using them we should make much better time than by ricksha. Such, however, perhaps owing to the frequent stoppages of the cars, is not the fact; the man-power carriage gets there first. It is years, unfortunately, since I was in London, but I understand that in that city, in order not to spoil the speed, there are certain stopping places suitably indicated, between which a halt is not permitted. Surely it would be no hardship if some similar method were introduced here, provided of course that the stopping places were not too far apart. There still remains the seating difficulty. Whilst Europeans are obliged to rub shoulders with all sorts and conditions of Chinese, the trams will never become popular. The only remedy I can suggest is that, say, the two front seats be entirely reserved and labelled "European 1st Class" in contradistinction to ordinary first class.

What is worth doing is worth doing at once. Now that it is officially settled that the correct way to keep a place covered with fine trees is to cut them down as soon as they mature, I hope the B. & A. Department will get to work at once on the slopes overlooking Victoria. There is a lot of mature timber in that lovely gorge that is crossed by the long viaduct. The gorge looks beautiful now, but there are heights of beauty to which it may still rise. Let the cutting begin, therefore, and let our gorge rise.

I was at Aberdeen yesterday afternoon, and coming up the mountain path I was struck by the dismal appearance of the scene of recent operations. It was as if a peculiarly wicked typhoon had been zig-zagging over the hill-side. Great wide gaps were there, once umbrageous and vernal; twigsome litter all around; and solitary trees left here and there, that had not the qualities that tempt the timber merchant, were badly damaged. I heard something like the sound of sawing even then. So, not content with breaking aesthetic hearts, they were breaking the sabbath too, I thought.

His Excellency the Governor evidently has confidence that his proposal to form a Volunteer Reserve Association will meet with more encouragement than it had received previous to Friday's meeting at the City Hall. A membership of 32 is rather disappointing, but after His Excellency's lucid explanation of the scheme and his patriotic appeal to eligible British residents there ought to be such an accession to the roll as will enable the Association to be inaugurated with a membership of not less than 100. The suggestion made in this column a few weeks ago that it would probably be advantageous to the scheme not to insist on a maximum age limit has been accepted, and this alone ought to result in the addition of many names to the list. Perhaps if I mention that "batteworthy" residents in the Straits Settlements are taking an interest in the scheme and that it has been publicly hinted to the Governor of the Southern Colony that the subject is worthy of his consideration, it may prove an additional incentive, as Hongkong would naturally like to be unto Singapore a worthy example in this as in all things.

BANYAN.

The "American Trade Index" for 1904 has reached us from the National Association of Manufacturers. This book is typical of American enterprise. Whether English, Spanish, German, or French, it doesn't matter what you want; if you can give it a name, you have but to open at the section devoted to your own language, to turn up the name in the alphabetical list, and you are at once directed to a page of addresses of those members of the Association who supply the article.

## HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Legislative Council was held on the 29th ult. in the Council Chamber.

Present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR, SIR MATTHEW NATHAN, K.C.M.G.

HON. COLONEL L. F. BROWN (Commanding the Troops).

HON. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Colonial Secretary).

HON. E. H. SHARP, K.C. (Attorney-General).

HON. L. A. M. JOHNSTON (Colonial Treasurer).

HON. A. W. BREWIN (Registrar-General).

HON. CAPTAIN L. A. W. BARNES-LAWRENCE, R.N. (Harbour Master).

HON. P. N. H. JONES (Director of Public Works).

HON. DR. HO KAI, C.M.G.

HON. WEI A YUK.

HON. R. SHEWAN.

HON. GERSHOM STEWART.

HON. W. J. GRESSON.

MR. S. B. C. ROSS (Clerk of Councils).

FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table Financial Minutes (Nos. 49 and 50) and moved that they be referred to the Finance Committee. The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the Report of the Finance Committee (No. 10) and moved its adoption.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

APPROPRIATION BILL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY moved the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to apply a sum not exceeding five million eight hundred and thirty-five thousand four hundred and seventy dollars to the Public Service of the year 1905.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded.

HON. R. SHEWAN said—Sir,—Before venturing to offer a few remarks upon the estimates now before us, let me congratulate the Council and the Colony in general on the change that has recently taken place in some of our most important offices. Frederick the Great when he began to perceive what manner of man the great Pitt was is said to have exclaimed, "England has been a long time in labour, but at last she has brought forth a man." We may say the same of the Colonial Office, for it has sent us a man who I am sure we shall delight to honour—one who we think and feel will prove a good Governor for us, who will take a real interest in the Colony and in us and in our affairs, and who will deal justly between man and man, whether he be official or unofficial, Chinaman or foreigner. He may even in time succeed in overcoming the hide-bound prejudices of those officials whose only God seems to be "old custom." He "aiblin's micht we canna tell" even induce them to "tak' a thocht" and mend their ways by keeping the minute book properly, for why we should have to go to the minutes for our questions and to local newspapers for our answers—

HIS EXCELLENCY—That is scarcely what the Bill before us deals with.

HON. MR. SHEWAN—I am talking of the Clerk of Councils' business, and his salary is in the Estimates.

HIS EXCELLENCY—That would be rather a question to be brought up when we come to the consideration of the items. The hon. member should speak on the matter before the Council.

HON. MR. SHEWAN—The official members have marvelled why their questions should be printed and their replies not be given. That is a thing none of us can understand. I also think we are fortunate, in fact—I am sure, in our new Director of Public Works, for he has already shown himself to be a man who is able and willing to rise above red tape when necessary to do so to accelerate the business of the public. I really believe that under Mr. Jones' regime my friend and neighbour Mr. Goets when he next gives a dance will not have to wait six weeks for a permit to put up a little matchshed, and only receive the said permit duly signed, sealed, and delivered long after the matchshed itself had been put up and taken down and the dance was a thing of the past.



**HIS EXCELLENCY**—That is hardly a matter of finance.

**Hon. Mr. SHEWAN**—Sir, I am finished. We laugh at the Circumlocution Office and "how not to do it," and we say that Dickens exaggerated, but here is something quite worthy of that picture, and shows that the race of Tite Barnacles is not yet extinct. I also congratulate the Colonial Treasurer on the full and clear statement and explanations he has given of the items of revenue and expenditure; but I am sorry to see my old friends "miscellaneous receipts" and "miscellaneous services" still bulk too largely therein. Miscellaneous receipts, for instance, is composed almost wholly of two amounts—\$120,000, profit from subsidiary coinage, and \$52,200, from conservancy contract; and here I would enquire why there was no profit from subsidiary coin the first half of this year, and more especially why the Government allow this profitable business to be spoiled and interfered with by the wretched Chinese coins that are flooding this place. Turning to the estimates themselves, the first thing that strikes one is that there is not much margin between revenue \$7,195,000, and expenditure of \$7,170,000, and if the Opium Farm, which is put down there for \$2,200,000, or land sales, which figure for \$500,000, should fail us, we shall be in Queer Street. Land sales, however, will probably do all that is expected, for the Colony is prosperous, the population is increasing, and land will probably continue in good demand; but you must remember that in these land sales you are living on your capital, they are not revenue, and 75 years' leases will not improve that demand. It is the old official story. In 75 years we shall all be dead and gone, and after us—the Deluge. But you must consider that in a few years these leases will have run off considerably, and capitalists who are looking for land for their enterprise, or Chinese and others who want to buy property for their families, will look very askance at property which has only a life of perhaps 50 or 60 years left. It is true that there is some condition as to option of renewal for another 75 years, but the terms have to be re-arranged, and who is going to fix the new price or premium and the new Crown rent, etc., etc.? It is altogether too vague and indefinite for businessmen—they can do better elsewhere—and the consequence will be that Government land on such terms will grow more and more out of favour. Talking of land reminds me I have seen Hongkong in its darkest days, when houses were to be had for the asking, and with no rent but payment of taxes, but I never thought that I should see it reduced to scraping the hillside for revenue, or the Government doing the very thing that it has often fined and imprisoned old women for doing. The great Colbert took credit for a notable saving for his master Louis the Fourteenth by substituting imitation lace for real lace on his officers' uniforms, and this cheese-paring spirit of income seems to have descended upon our present Prime Minister. For the last few weeks the Colony has been singing in chorus the old song "Woodman, spare that Tree," to the Colonial Secretary; but in spite of what Shakespeare says about the man that is not moved with concord of sweet sounds, he has turned a deaf ear or hummed a song in reply that sounded very like "the Budget is coming, hurrah, hurrah!" Well, it has come now, and we find that the country is to be saved by the magnificent sum of \$30,000, and I am not sure that even that is net. If you must get revenue from your trees why not plant rubber trees? They grow very well on this island, and the Colonial Secretary can enjoy himself tapping or milking them for revenue without destroying and devastating the landscape. If the beauty of our hills, of which we have long been proud since we planted them, is to be sacrificed to the exigencies of finance, the next thing I suppose we shall see will be that the Public Gardens have been turned into market gardens, and Othello's occupation being gone, the head of the Botanical Department will find useful employment in hawking vegetables round the town. Nearly half a million dollars spent upon the Sanitary Department must give us pause and make the ordinary man wonder if we get our money's worth, and if it is worth all that expenditure. It does seem a subject of reflection that, in spite of our expenditure and precautions and our boasted Western medical

science, the plague should run its course here, just exactly as it does neither sooner nor later in Canton, where nothing is done to contend with it. I am glad to see so much put down for expenditure on public works, but I hope Mr. Jones will not at the end of the year tell us, as some of his predecessors have done, that they never expected to spend all that money or do all that work, for they never had the men, etc., etc. If he feels that way he should speak out now, or for ever hold his peace. When are the promised experiments in wood paving and other materials for road making to be commenced? When is he going to remove the Clock Tower which obstructs Queen's Road, and, I hope, cast it into the sea? Will he now push on vigorously with the Law Courts and the Post Office? In regard to the former I still think that it should have been designed by local architects, who are now putting up buildings worthy of any European city, even Birmingham. There is an old Scottish saying which Sir Walter Scott was very fond of repeating, that "we should keep our ain fishguts leamaws for our ain seamaws." It is not a sentiment that I am over much in love with, but it is the doctrine that Mr. Chamberlain preaches. A little practice is worth a deal of precept, and Hongkong work should not be given to men who may have won prizes at school in Birmingham, but who know nothing of climatic conditions out here nor anything of the tropics, or what kind of buildings are best adapted for life in this part of the world. From what I heard when the plans first came out I formed the idea that the courtroom, as designed, would be about as light and airy as the Black Hole of Calcutta. I know that the Government architect denies this, but I do not think that that gentleman had come to the Colony when those plans first arrived. As for the Post Office, we paid an enormous sum of half a million dollars, or \$20 a foot, if I remember rightly, for the site; and I can see no reason why we should not utilise the ground for all it is worth and get all we can out of it by putting up another storey and putting the Harbour Master and all his works into it. He would have a fine view of the harbour; he would be in a much pleasanter situation than he is at present. It would be much more convenient for shipping people and the shipping firms; and last, but not least, the Colonial Treasurer could eke out the Budget with the proceeds of the sale of the old site, which must be very valuable. I think we in Hongkong suffer from two things, partly from want of taste and still more from lack of imagination. If there were a name that was endeared to all old residents by old memories and associations it was Pedder's Wharf, and it was mere snobbery and toadyism to alter it to Blake Pier. In the old days Pedder's Wharf was, and still is, the centre of the life of the harbour. It was the starting point of all our little expeditions and adventures to the mainland, and of all our picnics and bathing parties; it commemorated the name of a naval officer who had rendered good services in his time to his Queen and this Colony, and if it were necessary to advertise the name of any particular official there were surely plenty of new buildings and streets that could be used for the purpose. If the old name could be restored to us without offence I am sure the community would hail it with delight, but the wretched sycophants who were responsible for this miserable piece of time-serving surely deserve and will surely receive the contempt of every right-minded man. As for lack of imagination, one has only to go through the streets of the town and see with what an absence of any care, taste, forethought or imagination the place has been laid out. Somehow or other it seems impossible for us to look ahead and try to imagine what Hongkong will be twenty years hence. I don't say that the Government are the only sinners in this respect; we the people are just as bad. We had so little foresight that we built the Hongkong Club on half the piece of ground we could have obtained at the ridiculous price of \$3 a foot. A year or two afterwards we had to buy half the remainder at double the price, and had to build a bridge across the road to get at it. A little imagination there would have saved us a lot of money and given us a much better club. It may be too late to do much for Hongkong, but in Kowloon and the New Territory the Government have a

splendid chance of laying deep their plans for the future. We want over there main roads, 125ft., not 50ft. wide, with broad boulevards and avenues with, I was going to say, rows of fine shade-giving trees down them. But the thought of so much firewood running to waste would be too harrowing to the feelings of the Colonial Secretary and his friend the Woodcutter when they took their walks abroad over there. Don't tell me that it can't be done, we are tired of hearing of that word "can't"; if you won't do it then give us good reasons; if it is want of money that prevents you doing these things properly, then let us have a Loan. How humiliating, how mortifying it was for me to be told the other day by a German friend who had recently been to Tsingtau, that there was not a road in Hongkong that could compare with those they have in Tsingtau. Think of it, gentlemen. Hongkong, the fifth port in the world. I do beseech the Government to look ahead, for there will be tramways and railways some day in Kowloon, and we should not always leave work till the last minute and then do it in the scimpiest and cheapest manner possible. Before I sit down I must make one honourable exception to my charge of lack of imagination. There is one man who through good report and evil report has remained steadfast to his belief in the future of Hongkong. He was derided for his Praya Reclamation Scheme, but the Whirligig of Time brings its revenges; he was right, and time has nobly vindicated him. Need I say that I refer to the senior unofficial member, the member for the justices? In the far off years to come, when this Council and all connected with it shall have vanished from this earthly plane into the limbo of things forgotten, they will take the globe-trotter down to our new Praya, and they will show him the buildings which have lately sprung up there, and they will say of Sir Paul Chater, as was said once before of another noble knight, like him, a mighty workman in bricks and mortar, *Si monumentum quaeris, circumspice*.

**THE COLONIAL SECRETARY**—Sir, The remarks of the hon. member have certainly furnished two surprises which I myself never expected to experience in this Council Chamber. One is that actual praise should have been meted out to subordinate officials in Hongkong, which I thought was a thing that never could happen here, and the other is that a gentleman, sir, an Englishman, a member of this Council, a man who holds a considerable position in this Colony, should stand up and in the presence of two of our Chinese subjects—(Hon. Mr. SHEWAN: Fellow subjects)—and of the Press, who will duly report his remarks, employ terms regarding a former representative of His Majesty the King in this Colony which I should have thought any man would have been ashamed to utter. Now, sir, there are—

**Hon. Mr. SHEWAN**—I did not apply it to that gentleman. I applied it to the gentleman who advised the last representative of His Majesty to do that.

**THE COLONIAL SECRETARY**—The distinction, sir, is so fine that it can hardly be termed a distinction at all. The hon. member mentioned Canton coins and wondered why we did not restrict them coming into this Colony. I would like to ask him how he—who seems greatly interested in the finance of the Colony—would like to hear of the Viceroy of Canton utilising by prohibiting the flow of Hongkong coins into China think our profit on subsidiary coins would very rapidly disappear if such action were taken. He next criticised the system of granting 75 years' leases, and told us that this would depreciate property in the future in this colony. That is a cry that was raised at the time that the change was made, and all I can say is that the land sales ever since the change was made have fully justified the wisdom of making it. The land appears to be as much sought after as it was under longer leases. He next animadverted on the policy of the Afforestation Department, and all I can say with respect to that, sir, is that it is one more example of the innate aversion Englishmen have to anything connected with science. They do things in a bull-dog sort of way; but to do these in a scientific way they seem to have no appreciation whatever. He next deplored our expenditure upon plague and said they got on just as well in Canton



where they took no precautions. I think he begged the question. He adduced no evidence at all that this year, when we have been practically immune, plague has not raged very severely in Canton and vicinity. My information and the information of the Sanitary Board is to the effect that during the current year Hongkong has been conspicuous by its freedom from plague, with plague all round it. As for his remarks on the Law Courts, all I can say is, wait and see their completion and then criticise the building. He advised the Government to put another storey on the Post Office. Perhaps he has forgotten that it is actually going to be done. There is one storey more to be added to it to be kept in reserve for the expansion of official business that is certain to take place with the expansion of the Colony. The last remark I made a note of, Sir, was concerning our roads. I have not been at Tsingtau, but if they have got better roads in Tsingtau than we have in Hongkong, all I can say is that they are very fortunate.

**HIS EXCELLENCY**—There were certain points that the hon. Colonial Secretary did not touch on in his reply to the speech of the hon. Mr. Shewan, with which I will now deal. I could not understand the form of the point raised in connection with the Estimates. The hon. member stated that "miscellaneous receipts" ought not, in his opinion, to include Conservancy Contracts and Profits on Subsidiary Coins—that these are sufficiently important items to be dealt with under a separate heading "details of revenue." It seems to me that they are so separately dealt with on p. 5. It is perfectly clear there that \$54,150 is anticipated to be derived from conservancy contracts, and \$120,000 from the profits on subsidiary coins.

**Hon. Mr. SHEWAN**—What I wanted to point out was that a small item of \$5,000 of interest has a separate heading, while this item of \$120,000 is under "miscellaneous receipts."

**HIS EXCELLENCY**—It is a small thing; it is a matter of type.

**Hon. Mr. SHEWAN**—It is a matter of book-keeping.

**HIS EXCELLENCY**—The hon. member went on to refer to the disadvantage of crediting to revenue proceeds from land sales. I believe that is a question that has been very often considered and also discussed in this Council. It seems legitimate to credit revenue with these sales in view of the fact that we are spending largely out of revenue for public works that we anticipate will be remunerative. With regard to the remarks made by the hon. member on the subject of cutting trees, I think that he forgot at the moment that in so far as any one person is responsible for the work of the Departments in the Colony that person is myself and not the Colonial Secretary. It seems to me to have been unnecessary to have gone out of the way to bring in the Colonial Secretary in that particular connection.

**Hon. Mr. SHEWAN**—I thought this was inaugurated before your Excellency's arrival by the Officer Administering the Government.

**HIS EXCELLENCY**—The Colonial Secretary has stated, what I have also learned was the case, that while we were successful this year in keeping down the number of cases of plague to considerably less than what it has been in most years since 1894, the epidemic raged in Canton as badly as ever. I do not myself attribute very much importance to that, but I do think it is our bounden duty to carry out such measures as scientific men who have studied the question tell us are necessary to improve the health of the community. The hon. member threw some doubt on the Public Works Department spending all the money provided for them in the Estimates. As a matter of fact the works we are now carrying out are on contracts that have been entered into for some time, and are going on smoothly and rapidly; we want to have enough money so that there should not be a check on the work—for instance, on the Law Courts and on the Post Office, which the hon. member wished should be pushed on vigorously. The small question of the Clock Tower in Queen's Road is one on which I am not able at present to give any opinion, but which I will look into. On the large question of employing local architects in preference to getting designs from the best

architects in England, I am not entirely in accord with the hon. member. He talked of want of taste in this Colony though I do not know that it was quite in connection with this subject. At any rate I think we are better here for having some good examples imported from outside, and I do not think we can go to a better place for such examples than to the office of Messrs. Aston Webb and Ingress Bell, the gentlemen who are now designing the most important buildings in England and in other parts of the British Empire. Certainly the best building we have in the Colony which I recently had the honour of governing was designed by the same architects who have sent us the designs of the Law Courts. The question of roads at Kowloon has received the very careful attention of the Public Works, and probably the hon. member, if he has recently been there, will have noticed some steps in the direction for which he argued. I should think it is quite likely that at Tsingtau they have splendid roads. It is part of the German policy. When I visited the German colony adjacent to the Gold Coast last year I was struck by the great expenditure they had incurred on roads. I was also struck by the fact that the German residents of the Colony itself seemed to consider somehow that the expenditure had been in excess of any advantage that was likely to be derived from it. The only matter which remains for me to refer to is the question raised—I cannot think very fortunately—by the hon. member of want of taste in connection with the renaming of a pier. I think that question was sufficiently answered by the silence with which it was received.

#### FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held after the Council, the Colonial Secretary (Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G.) presiding.

#### LAND COURT.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of \$250 in aid of the vote Land Court, New Territory, other charges, for repairing the house-boat used by the Land Court Department as a branch office in the New Territory, which was damaged by the recent typhoon.

The vote was passed.

#### TAIPINGSHAN GARDEN.

The Governor recommended the Council to vote a sum of Five hundred Dollars (\$500) in aid of the vote Botanical and Afforestation Department, Other Charges, for Taipingshan Garden—levelling and laying out.

The vote was agreed to.

#### THE APPROPRIATION BILL.

The Committee proceeded to consider the Appropriation Bill item by item.

#### HARBOUR REFUGE.

The CHAIRMAN said he was authorised to inform the Committee that it was regretted that it had not been possible to include any sum for the construction of a harbour refuge. When an hon. member asked a question about this matter recently he was informed that it was being considered. It had received consideration, but owing to the large requirements for other works, principally waterworks, it had not been found possible to include it.

#### THE NEW PRISON.

Referring to a vote of \$10,000 for a prison, the CHAIRMAN said that last year, on the recommendation of the Public Works Department, a site on Stonecutters' Island was selected for a prison, and the sum was actually inserted in the Estimates and voted by the Council for the construction of such a prison; but now it was proposed not to adopt the site on Stonecutters' the reason being that the military authorities, for reasons which, he thought, would be obvious to hon. members, wanted control of the whole island. It was hoped that a site which would commend itself equally to the Public Works Committee would be found for the construction of this prison. They would be consulted with the matter in due course.

The different items in the Bill having been approved, the Bill was left in Committee.

## SUPREME COURT.

Friday, 23rd September.

### IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE SMITH  
(PUISNE JUDGE.)

#### INDIAN DEALER REBUKED.

Cassum Ahmed, an Indian dealer, sued E. J. Hyndman for \$23.21 in respect of goods sold and delivered.

The defendant, a boy of barely fifteen years of age, admitted the debt. In reply to his Lordship he said he bought some of the goods for his sister and some for himself. He was a clerk with a mercantile firm in the Colony and earned \$30 a month.

His Lordship reprimanded the plaintiff for selling goods on credit to a boy of defendant's years and said he should be more careful in future.

Asked how much he could pay, the defendant undertook to pay the debt in instalments of \$5 per month.

His Lordship gave judgment accordingly, the first instalment to be paid on the 1st October.

Tuesday, 27th September.

### IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE SMITH  
(PUISNE JUDGE.)

#### A NEW TERRITORY LAND CASE.

A case was called in which Ma Fu Shan, 17, Gage Street, sued Tang Yun Kwong, land owner, Kowloontsai, and Ng Sik Ki, trader, of the Sze Wo shop, Yaumati, for \$1,087.16 (restricted to \$1,000), being \$950 paid by the plaintiff to the first defendant by way of deposit on the signing of an agreement, dated March, 1903, made between the plaintiff on the one side and the two defendants together with one Poon Ming on the other, whereby it was agreed inter alia that if the defendant should fail to obtain a certificate or other evidence of his title to certain premises mentioned in the agreement and thereby agreed to be sold to the plaintiff within two years from 18th March, 1903, or if the decision of the Land Court or any superior Court should be adverse to such title (which was the case), the said deposit should be repaid to the plaintiff with interest at the rate of 10 per cent. from the date of the agreement; and \$137.16 interest on the sum of \$950 from 18th March, 1903, till 26th August, 1904. The defendant Ng Sik Ki was sued as surety for the repayment of the deposit and interest.

Mr. A. C. Holborow, of Messrs. Deacon, Looker and Deacon, solicitors, appeared for the plaintiff. He stated that Mr. Brutton, who had been representing the first defendant, had withdrawn from the case on the previous day.

Evidence was given by Ma Fu Shan, the plaintiff; Mr. J. R. Wood, registrar in the Land Court; and Tang Yun Kwong, the first defendant.

His Lordship reserved judgment.

Wednesday, 28th September.

### IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE SMITH  
(PUISNE JUDGE.)

#### A WANT OF SECURITY.

Two cases were called in which the Yu Loong firm, 5, Lower Lascar Road, sued the Kwong Fai firm, 222, Des Voeux Road West, for \$266.85 for goods sold and delivered, and Shin Cheong, traders, 104, Shankiwan, for \$156.34 goods sold and delivered. Mr. E. J. Grist, of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, solicitors, appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. J. Hastings, solicitor, for the defendants.

Mr. Hastings said the defendants had received notice, before this action was brought, from one of the partners, not to pay these sums to the plaintiffs. There was a partnership dispute going on as to which there was a suit in the Original Jurisdiction against Wong-Ping



Nam, and he had given Mr. Grist instructions to bring these suits. Other two partners gave notice to defendants not to pay because they were afraid that Wong Ping Nam would receive the money and abscond with it. As Wong Ping Nam commenced these actions plaintiffs commenced the Original suit, and a receiver had been appointed on their application. Defendants had paid the receiver that amount. Therefore, he submitted, this action should be withdrawn.

His Lordship said they should have given notice to the other side.

Mr. Hastings replied that they had done so. The object of the other side was to get hold of this money for one of the partners; he had already got hold of all the funds he could lay his hands on, and now he wanted to scratch up as much more as he could.

Mr. Grist said the receiver had been appointed subject to giving security. That security had not been given. The dispute was a difference between the partners and the plaintiff firm. Therefore he as manager of the firm was entitled to recover any monies which were due to that firm by the defendant.

Mr. Hastings stated that bonds for the required security would be drawn up immediately. The giving of security had nothing to do with the debtors of the estate. This suit was bad, because after the appointment of a receiver one partner could not sue for a debt.

Mr. Grist said he only asked for his costs. The managing partner had been put to the expense of obtaining judgment against defendants, and he should receive his costs.

Mr. Hastings contended that plaintiff was not entitled to judgment, for if his Lordship gave judgment he would be giving judgment for the payment of the money twice over. If he was entitled to costs he should get it out of the money in the hands of the receiver.

Judgment was deferred.

Thursday, 29th September.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE SMITH  
(PUISNE JUDGE).

#### A LEASE DISPUTE.

Chan Kin Cho, trader, 46, North Station Street, Yaumati, sued Ting On, 48, Sheung Wan Street, Samsuipo, for specific performance of an agreement and \$500 damages. Mr. R. Harding, of Messrs. Ewens and Harston, solicitors, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. E. J. Grist, of Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist, solicitors, was for the defendant.

Mr. Harding in opening the case said that about the beginning of the current Chinese year the plaintiff entered into negotiations with defendant to lease certain premises at Samsuipo. On 16th April a six years' lease was signed. But the plaintiff had never been let into possession, although he had made repeated applications, and the defendant had failed to carry out this agreement. Plaintiff now brought this action for breach of the agreement and also for damages.

Mr. Grist said the whole question was whether the document was a lease or an agreement for a lease.

After hearing parties his Lordship reserved judgment.

Friday, 30th September.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR T. SERCOMBE SMITH  
(PUISNE JUDGE.)

#### A LOST PROMISSORY NOTE.

M. Hoosen sued R. Soonderam for \$50 due on a promissory note.

Plaintiff stated that about the 2nd of June last he borrowed \$100 from Khair Singh of the Opium Farm, with consent of the defendant, to pay off a promissory note for which they were jointly liable and which was signed by him and by the defendant. For this sum of \$100 plaintiff gave a promissory note, signed by him only, to Khair Singh, and the defendant gave plaintiff a promissory note for \$50. The original promissory note was torn up. The reason for redeeming the original promissory note and

signing a new one was that the interest they had had to pay was exorbitant. Ever since the signing of the note, the defendant had been paying interest to Khair Singh for \$50. At the end of August plaintiff discovered that he had lost defendant's promissory note for \$50. As soon as possible after his discovery—he believed it was the same day—he informed the defendant of the loss of his promissory note, and the defendant said, "I will not get you into trouble; I will give you a promissory note or an I.O.U." Defendant, however, did not do so, but put him off from time to time. No action was brought on the original promissory note; they borrowed the money to pay it because the interest on it was too high.

The defendant in his evidence deposed that each of them gave a promissory note for \$50. Both these promissory notes were handed over to Khair Singh, and they received from him the original promissory note for \$100. This note was destroyed in his presence in the Hongkong Hotel. His promissory note for \$50 was made out for Khair Singh; he did not see Khair Singh at that time.

Cross-examined by the plaintiff—He gave plaintiff the promissory note for \$50. It was made payable to the bearer. He had been paying interest all the time to Khair Singh for \$50 out of the \$100 promissory note. To his knowledge he owed this sum of \$50 to Khair Singh and not to the defendant. Plaintiff did not tell him that Khair Singh would not have his signature.

Plaintiff, re-examined by the defendant, stated that he did say that Khair Singh would not take his signature at that time.

Khair Singh was next called. He said he did not receive a promissory note from the defendant. He did receive a promissory note for \$100 from the plaintiff, but had not got it in his possession at present; he had forgotten to bring it to the Court.

His Lordship adjourned the case until to-day (Saturday) at noon, and ordered Khair Singh to bring the promissory note for \$100.

## HONGKONG VOLUNTEER RESERVE ASSOCIATION.

### THE GOVERNOR'S VIEWS.

On the invitation of His Excellency the Governor, Sir Matthew Nathan, K.C.M.G., a meeting was held in the City Hall on 23rd ult. at half-past five o'clock of those gentlemen who had sent in their names as being willing to join the Hongkong Volunteer Reserve Association and of others interested in the formation of the Association. There was a large attendance. His Excellency was accompanied by Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, and Sir Henry S. Berkeley, Chief Justice.

HIS EXCELLENCY said—Gentlemen,—The invitation to the senior members of the Colony who are British subjects to form themselves into an association to be called the Hongkong Volunteer Reserve Association, which was published in the local Press on 30th August and subsequent dates, not having met with the recognition that it was hoped it would meet with, it seemed to me that if I could make better known through the medium of the gentlemen who have evinced some interest in the scheme the exact conditions under which it is proposed to carry it out, and also the advantages which the Colony might be expected to derive from it, it was probable that the association would attain greater dimensions and so become an institution more worthy of the Colony. I propose in the first instance to explain, and in one case to modify the conditions which were embodied in the Governor's notification of the 30th August. The first of these conditions now reads:—"The age limit for members to be from 35 to 50." I propose to substitute for this:—"Members shall be not less than 35 years of age." By this alteration no man over 35 will be debarred from enjoying the privileges of the association who feels that he retains sufficient energy to lend a helping hand in the hour of need. I have given careful consideration to the suggestion which appeared in last night's *China Mail*, that the minimum age limit should be altered from 35 to 25, and I have come to the conclusion that this alteration would not be advantageous to the general residents. (Applause.) It seems to me that

the result would necessarily be to weaken the Volunteer force, to strengthen the Reserve Association at the expense of the Volunteer force; that is to say, to strengthen the body which receives the lesser at the expense of the body which receives the greater. Again, if the Volunteers increase as they should do, and as I hope they will do, after a time the bulk of the young men in the Colony under 35 years of age will belong to the active Volunteers, and the Volunteer Reserve Association will then become really a reserve, consisting of men who have had some training and who are keeping up the most essential part of it—musketry practice. I do not attach much value to the argument which was in the papers, that the exigencies of business would not allow some men to join the Volunteers while they could manage to fulfil the conditions required in the Association. From what I have heard, the heads of firms and departments give great facilities to Volunteers to attend the annual camping exercise, and apart from this camping exercise the number of drills that a man has to attend are not so very considerable, and great latitude is allowed as to when they go out in these drills. Altogether, I think it will be found that the time spent by an efficient Volunteer on his Volunteer work is not a very great proportion of the time that he is away from business during the year. Further, it is within my knowledge that some of the busiest men of the Colony are already or propose to be active Volunteers. The second condition is that members should undertake not to quit the association within one year of joining, without leave, and to enrol themselves in the event of necessity under the Volunteer Ordinance as the Hongkong Volunteer Reserve Company. This was inserted to make the Association a real reserve that could be counted on in time of emergency. It is necessary that we should know always what men will be available at the hour they are required. It is not intended to prevent men leaving the Association at any time for good reason, such as leaving the Colony or suffering from serious illness, or any other good reason. With regard to the second sentence of that condition, "Upon enrolment officers of the company will be selected from among the members and commissioned by the Governor," I think you may be perfectly certain that the Governor will select as officers those members in whom he thinks the remainder will be most willing to render efficient service. (Applause.) The third condition is that the rules of the association are to be framed by the Committee of Management elected by the members from among their own number. This provides for the Association being of the nature of a club with power to form its own rules as to rifle competitions and as to raising such funds as may be necessary and as to any other object that may appear to them desirable, having in view the general idea of the association. The fourth condition is that members should practise rifle shooting so as to become efficient shots, for which purpose they shall be lent rifles by the General Officer Commanding and shall be supplied with ammunition at cost price. This relates to the Association apart from the ordinary charges of rifle clubs in return for promising to enrol in time of emergency. The fifth condition refers to ranges—"The use of the Volunteer and Police range will be reserved for the Association one day in the week, and the members will have the right to use the range at all times when not otherwise occupied." Since that was published I have been in communication with the General Officer Commanding, and he is further willing to make available to the Association the short rifle range that is to be provided for the military at High West, and also the military rifle range at Kowloon City. Further, he has promised the Association that so long as it is possible to use the King's Park rifle range at Kowloon with safety they will be permitted to do so. (Applause.) I should now like to justify my personal interest in the present scheme. From the end of the year 1895 till the end of the year 1900 it was my duty to examine the annual reports of the Commandant of the Hongkong Volunteers, and these reports during those years showed a continual progress both as regards numbers and efficiency. At the end of the year 1895-6 the number of Volunteers was 125; at the end of 1896-7, 159; 1897-8, 176;



|                                                                                             |                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| By losses and claims paid .....                                                             | \$ 1,248,889.90      |
| By charges, including directors', auditor's,<br>and survey fees, agents' expenses, &c. .... | 109,476.17           |
| By commissions .....                                                                        | 163,056.51           |
| By exchange .....                                                                           | 1,822.50             |
| By balance as above .....                                                                   | 445,484.34           |
|                                                                                             | <hr/> \$1,958,739.42 |

## S. MOUTRIE AND CO., LIMITED.

The report of the directors for the year ending 30th June, 1904, as presented to the shareholders at the fifth annual general meeting at Shanghai recently, was as follows:

The directors, in submitting their report and statement of accounts for the year ending 30th June, 1904, feel that they can again congratulate the shareholders on the continued prosperity of the Company. The net profit, after paying an interim dividend of 4 per cent. on 3,783 shares, amounting to \$7,566, leaves \$19,949.51 to be appropriated, and as the result is in a measure due to the exertions of the staff, the directors recommend that an amount of \$2,000 should be paid to them in the shape of a bonus. The balance of profit and loss account the directors propose to deal with as follows:—

|                                                                                                 |             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| To pay a final dividend of 6 per cent. (making 10 per cent. for the year) on 4,039 shares ..... | \$12,117.00 |
| To place to a reserve fund .....                                                                | 5,000.00    |
| To present as a bonus to the staff .....                                                        | 2,000.00    |
| To carry forward to new profit and loss account .....                                           | 832.50      |

\$19,949.50

In accordance with the special resolution for increasing the capital of the Company passed at an extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders on the 26th of May, 1903, which was duly confirmed on the 22nd of June, 1903, 1,505 new shares have been allotted, and the directors are offering the balance to the public by advertisement in the local newspapers. The new factory is now in working order, and it is anticipated that the whole of the buildings will be completed by the end of the current month.

The business at Tientsin continues prosperous. Mr. Sydenham Moutrie's agreement has been renewed for a further period of five years on satisfactory terms.

Directors.—Mr. E. C. Pearce left for Europe on leave at the end of April last, and Mr. William D. Little was invited to join the Board; his appointment requires the confirmation of the shareholders. In accordance with the articles of association Mr. E. C. Pearce tenders his resignation, but being eligible offers himself for re-election.

## NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LD.

An extraordinary general meeting of the National Bank of China, Ltd., was held at the Company's premises, Queen's Road Central, on the 24th ult., for the purpose of confirming the resolution passed at the last general meeting with regard to the reduction of the Company's capital.

Mr. J. Focke presided, and there were also present: Messrs. G. C. Moxon and Kwong Kong Kuk (Directors), G. W. F. Playfair (Manager), H. Pinckney, E. W. Terry, G. H. Potts, Ng Chit Mi, Fung Wa Chun, Secretary of the Man On Insurance Company, Chun Hee, Fung Hoi, Wook Yik Tai, and Wai Wee Shang.

The MANAGER read the notice convening the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said: Gentlemen,—Before putting this resolution I would again submit to you as I did at the meeting of 3rd September, the statement of assets and liabilities as on 31st December, 1903, drawn up so as to give effect to the proposed reduction of capital. I may mention that we hold proxies for 15,667 ordinary and 281 founders, and against 88 ordinary and 49 founders. If there are no questions to ask then I will propose as follows:—

"That the capital of the company be reduced from £1,000,000, divided into 750 shares of £1 each (founders' shares), and 99,925 shares of £10 each (ordinary shares), to £699,475, divided into 99,925 shares of £7 each; and that such reduction be effected by writing off the whole amount

paid or credited as paid on each of the 750 shares of £1 each and cancelling those shares, and by writing off £3 per share, part of the sum of £8 per share which has been paid or credited as paid on the 40,453 shares of £10 each which have been issued, and by reducing each of the 99,925 shares of £10 each to a share of £7."

Mr. E. W. TERRY seconded, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

There was no further public business.

## CANTON NOTES.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

26th September.

## BIG OIL BLAZE.

Two events have occurred to-day which will long render the 26th September memorable in Canton. I have already telegraphed you that at 5 o'clock p.m. fire broke out in Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg's godown in Fati, where kerosene oil is stored in large quantities. From the nature of the material, the fire was from the first beyond control, and could only be left to burn itself out. Fortunately there is hardly a breath of air, so that there appears to be little danger of the fire spreading. In its earliest stages, indeed, it threatened the residence of the Portuguese caretaker, situated barely twenty yards away to windward. The woodwork of the windows in this house was consumed, and the unfortunate occupant was severely burnt while saving his property, his wife also suffering to some extent.

Beyond these two cases there were, as far as can be ascertained, no other casualties. The wind fortunately veered at a critical moment, when the fate of the house seemed to be sealed, and what little breeze there was died completely away. Had, it however, veered to the north, the heat would probably have caused the neighbouring tank to explode, when a terrible disaster would have resulted. As it was, a pipe connecting the tank with the godown was immediately cut.

As I write, late at night, a vast column of smoke is rising from the blazing furnace beneath, its dense volume curling upward to an immense height—a spectacle as imposing as it is unusual, and calling to mind a volcano in activity. The fire will, it is estimated, not burn itself out for 24 hours.

## MURDER BY AMERICAN SAILORS.

The second affair, though happily no less unusual than the great fire, is of a totally different character. Shortly before seven this evening a party of bluejackets from the U.S.S. *Helena*, when returning from the city, fell foul of a Chinaman on Canal Road, and threw him into the water, where the unfortunate man was drowned. The bluejackets made good their escape; and when their victim was taken from the canal dead, the feelings of the Chinese in the densely-crowded thoroughfare may be imagined. It was considered advisable to send a party of British bluejackets to guard the bridge nearest to the scene, but they were withdrawn later in the evening, as the Sha Kee had quieted down.

This sad affair has given rise to much indignation in Shameen. It is less a matter of surprise that such an event has occurred now than that it never occurred before. The American bluejackets are allowed unrestrained liberty ashore, and are not given a canteen on their ships, so that between the license accorded them and the vile liquor they drink in the native dens, it is fortunate that so few fatal accidents occur—not only here in Canton, but throughout China.

In this case the strictest inquiry will, it is to be hoped, be held, and justice done. Some restriction should also be placed on the bluejackets, whose conduct is not only disgraceful in itself, but a menace to the safety of all foreigners in Shameen. The events of 1883 should be borne in mind.

## ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

At 7 p.m. four American sailors off the *Helena*, on the English Bridge, picked up a Chinaman and pitched him over the parapet into the creek. He was got out after about a quarter of an hour, but was drowned or suffocated in the mud, and efforts to restore life were fruitless. Two British bluejackets coming from the other side of the canal were set upon

by the mob, and would have had a bad time but for the good sense of a native storekeeper, who explained to the crowd that they were not of the offending nationality, and escorted them to the gate. If it had not been so late there would probably have been a riot; as it is, feeling runs very high, and the act certainly was a dastardly one, and not to be excused by the defence of practical joking. An inquest is being held by the American Consul. Many residents think the British Consul should have the matter in hand, as the deceased was on a British ship's articles; he was second comrade on one of Butterfield and Swire's boats, and the affair occurred on British territory.

## CANTON TRADE REPORT FOR 1903.

Mr. R. de Luca, the Acting Commissioner of Customs at Canton, says in his trade report for 1903:—

It is satisfactory to have to report that, according to the figures of the appended statistics, the trade of Canton for the period under review shows a substantial increase as compared with that of the previous year, and indications are not wanting that this favourable state of affairs will continue. The situation in Kwangtung has improved of late, and the disturbances in the neighbouring province of Kwangsi, which recently caused much uneasiness, have been, to a certain degree, checked, and the outlook there is generally more hopeful. Piracy is still, unfortunately, prevalent; and were more energetic and effective measures adopted for its suppression, confidence would be restored and trade encouraged to no small extent. It should, perhaps, be explained that the word "piracy" in this connection is at times somewhat of a misnomer, and the lawlessness and outrages referred to might in many cases be more correctly described as ordinary robbery. The bad effect on trade, however, is none the less apparent, and rightly gives cause for serious complaint. Both rice crops were excellent, and the abundance and consequent cheapness of this important staple contributed materially towards the expansion of trade referred to above, and more particularly towards the latter half of the year. It is indeed a truism in China that the prosperity of a district may be said to be largely dependent on the rice crop, and the year 1903 was especially favoured in this respect, being the best recorded during the last 30 years. Nevertheless, owing to the abnormal shortage of rice in this province in the previous year, it was at first necessary to have recourse to large importations from Wuhu, and these unprecedented shipments, amounting to nearly 7,000,000 piculs, most of which were contracted for in advance, continued to arrive until the autumn, when the benefits of the plentiful spring crop became apparent and the price fell some 30 per cent. In this connection some speculation was indulged in, and an attempt made to form a corner in rice. The Viceroy, however, wisely intervened, and the price was kept within reasonable limits. It may be here mentioned that even in ordinary years the local production of rice in the province is never equal to local requirements, and large importations are always necessary to supplement the deficiency. The greater part of the rice thus imported comes from abroad—principally Saigon—whilst the balance is brought from the Yangtze. The net value of the year's trade amounted to Hk. Tls. 110,559,826, which is the largest on record, and Hk. Tls. 30,815,119 more than that of the previous year.

REVENUE.—The total collection for 1903 amounted to Hk. Tls. 2,908,604, or Hk. Tls. 316,344 more than for the record year, 1902. This substantial increase, although mainly due to actual expansion of volume of trade, may be partly accounted for by a diversion of the carrying trade from junks to steamers—the slowness of transit in the case of the former, being now no longer compensated by preferential fiscal treatment, has naturally resulted in the quicker and safer mode of conveyance being more freely availed of.

FOREIGN TRADE.—(a.) Imports.—The net value of imports was Hk. Tls. 23,633,179, which is more than Hk. Tls. 7,000,000 in excess of the figures for 1902. This noteworthy



advance is to some extent due to the heavy importation of rice—already mentioned,—which, while not increasing the revenue, has considerably added to the total value of the trade. Imports have necessarily been hampered by the lowness and fluctuations of exchange, which often tended to render commercial transactions arranged for in advance too speculative to be satisfactory; many merchants suffered in consequence, but principally those whose contracts were made in the spring, when exchange was low, and whose goods, arriving when exchange had risen a little, were disposed of at a value too low to be profitable. Cotton piece goods have been in good demand, and a general all-round increase is noticeable. Grey shirtings have advanced to 152,731 pieces, as compared with 115,826 pieces during the previous year; dyed shirtings have likewise been imported in growing quantities; 42,581 pieces of T-cloths arrived, against 32,196 pieces in 1902; and chintzes and furnitures have advanced from 18,444 pieces in 1902 to 45,794 pieces. The importation of towels continues to increase; and it is gratifying in this connection to also be able to record a large demand for soap, which if judged by statistics, is becoming more popular year by year. The movement of cotton yarn does not call for special notice—104,695 piculs of the Indian article were imported, as compared with 103,066 piculs in 1902. The trade in woollen goods shows no sign of improvement, nor is there much probability of its ever increasing much in a district situated so far south as Canton. The importation of kerosene oil during the year is the largest yet recorded, and amounted to 10,720,297 gallons, or about 14 million gallons more than during the previous year; most of this oil arrives in bulk, is tinned locally, and sent inland under transit pass. Japan matches also show an increase, and over 1,200,000 gross were imported, against 1,100,000 gross in 1902. Metals, like other bulky goods, come here principally by junk, and what passed through the Foreign Customs shows little fluctuation as compared with 1902. Nail-rod and bar iron have considerably increased, but other items under this heading do not require special mention.

**Exports.**—The total value of this division of the trade reached the large sum of Hk. Tls. 48,700,516, which is Hk. Tls. 9,208,551 more than the figures for the previous year. Exchange favoured exports, and the year is said to be a fairly satisfactory one for traders. Nearly all the principal articles of export have increased. Cassia lignea has advanced some 6,000 piculs over the figures for 1902 to 55,220 piculs for the period under review; firecrackers, from 17,481 piculs to 32,365 piculs; and paper, from 15,062 piculs to 19,143 piculs. Human hair continues to be sent away in large quantities, and this year the exportation amounted to 1,789 piculs, valued at about Hk. Tls. 65,000. The total export of tea compares favourably with 1902. The quality of scented caper—the principal branch of this trade—was poor, and although prices ruled high during the season the supply was barely equal to the demand—14,011 piculs were shipped, as compared with 9,598 piculs in 1902. Scented orange pekoe has almost entirely gone off the market, but Congou maintains its position and shows a slight advance over 1902. Considerable quantities of Kulos are exported for Chinese consumption abroad. The statistics in respect to matting record an increase of some 200,000 rolls exported as compared with the figures for 1902. The season, however, cannot altogether be regarded as a successful one from a trade point of view. The market opened well, but in the autumn an advance in the price of straw absorbed a portion of the profits. To meet the large demand in the spring it was found necessary to supply matting of inferior quality, and at one time it was feared that the trade would suffer in consequence. The Matting Guild interfered, however, and endeavoured to maintain a higher standard. It is hoped that its efforts will prove successful, as otherwise the ultimate effect on the matting business cannot but be harmful. About 80 per cent. of the matting shipped from Canton now goes by steamer, while formerly most of it went by junk by reason of the cheaper freight and more favourable fiscal treatment. The foreign demand for silk has weakened somewhat of late, and the trade here

has been adversely affected in consequence. There was considerable inquiry at home, however, during the spring, and exports were fully disposed of; but towards summer consumption is said to have slackened, with the result that values gave way with steadily increasing stocks, many of which are being taken into 1904. With few exceptions, the quality of raws—of which 34,709 piculs were exported, against 37,514 piculs in 1902—shows no improvement; there is a noticeable increase in the number of good filatures. The export of waste remains much the same, and calls for no special comment. Cocoons have been in good demand and have been sent away in increased quantities—the figures being 3,440 piculs, against 2,531 piculs in 1902. The fluctuations in exchange—referred to elsewhere—have not been conducive to steady profits, and the year has been far from a remunerative one for native traders.

(c.) *Re-exports*.—No remarks.

4. **COAST TRADE.**—(a.) *Original Shipments Coastwise*.—The trade to coast ports continues to expand, and the total value of shipmen's during the year amounted to Hk. Tls. 4,638,703, or nearly Hk. Tls. 1,000,000 more than in 1902. The principal items exported coastwise were silk piece goods (valued at Hk. Tls. 700,607), buttons, fans, gummy bags, joss ornaments, leather, mirrors, opium lamps, sugar, and prepared tobacco.

(b.) *Reshipment Coastwise*.—No remarks.

(c.) *Coastwise Arrivals*.—The value of this section of the trade was Hk. Tls. 38,927,489, and the corresponding figures for 1902 were Hk. Tls. 24,747,842. This advance appears at first sight very considerable and implies a general improvement of trade; on closer examination, however, it will be seen that the rice brought from the Yangtze is responsible for over 40 per cent. of the total value. Large quantities of beans were also imported; the other principal articles calling for particular notice being native cloth and nankeens, ground-nuts (valued at Hk. Tls. 3,907,523), ground-nut oil, sesamum seed, and wheat.

**INLAND TRANSIT.**—(a.) *Inwards*.—The steady increase of this branch of the trade observable, with few exceptions, for some years past still continues, while transit outwards has declined. Large quantities of cotton piece goods are sent inland for distribution in this province and in Kwangsi; of sundries, the most noticeable items are matches and kerosene; 1,553,600 gallons of the latter went to various localities in Kwangtung, 737,100 gallons to Kwangsi, and 368,750 gallons to Kweichow.

(b.) *Outwards*.—Transit outwards has fallen off considerably as compared with the previous year, and only 36 passes were surrendered.

6. **SHIPPING.**—8,267 vessels (exclusive of steam-launches plying under Inland Rules) entered and cleared, representing a tonnage of 5,229,583—a gain of 684 vessels and 937,319 tons over 1902. This advance is explained by the fact that two new river steamers—one of which is over 1,000 tons register—have been placed on the daily run to Hongkong and also by the unusually large number of rice-laden steamers which entered during the year. The number of entries and clearances of steam-vessels working under Inland Steam Navigation rules was 149,512, aggregating 3,284,038 tons. When Kongmoon and the additional "ports of call" on the West River are opened to trade and the railway to Hankow completed, a fresh stimulus will doubtless be given to shipping interests and trade generally, and the unrivalled natural waterways of the delta will be taken advantage of and exploited to the greatest extent. There were no serious casualties to shipping during the year, beyond the minor mishaps to be expected on a busy and crowded river. A remarkable feature in connection with the large number of launches plying in the harbour and district is the admirable manner in which they are handled by their native crews, and, considering the large traffic, the immunity from accidents enjoyed by them is extraordinary and cannot be attributed solely to the proverbial luck of the Chinese.

7. **PASSENGER TRAFFIC.**—The passenger traffic to and from Hongkong, Macao, and various smaller places in the neighbourhood is growing yearly. 7,639 foreigners and 764,895 natives arrived. Of these, 6,353 foreigners and 695,049 natives were from Hongkong. 6,622 foreigners and 731,737 natives left—5,612 and 663,191

respectively being for Hongkong. The majority of the foreigners are transient visitors, arriving, generally, in the morning and leaving again in the evening. The above figures do not include traffic inland by launches and their tows, of which we have no reliable statistics; a very large number of Chinese undoubtedly take advantage of the many facilities in this respect, and the number of launches engaged in this branch of the trade is very large and is increasing yearly.

8. **TREASURE.**—The value of silver dollars imported from abroad was Hk. Tls. 3,515,855, and from Chinese ports, Hk. Tls. 9,420—aggregating, including Sycee, Hk. Tls. 4,391,925. The total export of silver, principally dollars, amounted to Hk. Tls. 14,192,291. These figures only refer, of course, to such bullion as is reported to the Custom House, and give an inadequate idea of the total treasure arriving in, and sent away from, Canton.

9. **OPIMUM.**—(a.) *Foreign*.—The importation of foreign opium has steadily increased during recent years, as will be observed by the comparative figures below. The demand has been brisk throughout 1903, notwithstanding that the price rose in the case of Patna and Benares to about Hk. Tls. 800, including duty and likin, per picul, and the market quotation for Malwa also shows a considerable rise as compared with that for 1902. The Cantonese prefer the foreign to the inferior but cheaper native opium.

FOREIGN OPIMUM IMPORTED INTO CANTON.

| 1899.   | 1901.   | 1902.   | 1903.   |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Piculs. | Piculs. | Piculs. | Piculs. |
| 6,900   | 6,914   | 8,000   | 8,447   |
|         |         |         | 9,100   |

(b.) *Native*.—The amount of native opium passed through the Customs here continues insignificant, but considerable quantities reach the province by overland routes. It is used extensively to blend with the Indian article, and the mixture is largely availed of by the poorer classes, who find it preferable to the native, and cheaper than the foreign drug.

10. **MISCELLANEOUS.**—The most interesting and important event of the year was the opening of the branch line of the Canton-Hankow Railway to Patsan and Sanshui. The supervision of the Native Customs department continues to progress favourably and to work smoothly. The junk trade has decreased somewhat during the year in favour of steamers, and the falling off is more apparent in the case of regular traders between Hongkong and this port. The reason for this retrogression has been already referred to under the heading of Revenue. All bulky goods, however, such as railway materials, stone, coal, etc., continue to be carried in native boats. The revenue collection is estimated as about the same as that for the last corresponding period. The various barriers, or artificial obstructions to navigation in the Canton River, have been surveyed by the revenue steamer *Feihoo*, in anticipation of their being ultimately removed, in accordance with the stipulations of the Mackay Treaty recently ratified. It is expected that their removal will simplify dredging work in connection with the proposal to improve the accommodation for shipping in the harbour, besides rendering the approaches to Canton safer and easier. The Imperial Post Office records for 1903 are encouraging reading, and it is satisfactory to chronicle a general increase and expansion in all departments. New agencies were established in 9 district cities and 21 towns during the year. The post office now functions in about 120 towns and villages in this district, and is being more availed of and appreciated year by year. The parcel post has become very popular with all classes. Over 20,000 parcels were dealt with, weighing some 69 tons and valued at about \$334,000, the duty on which amounted to Hk. Tls. 12,450.

It has been decided, at the instance of H.M. Minister at Peking, and in conjunction with the Chinese Customs authorities, that in future "Wei-hai-wei will receive the same treatment as a foreign port. Consequently no duties will be charged on merchandise in transit, and drawbacks will be allowed on foreign goods re-exported thither which have paid import duty, or on native goods which have paid coast trade duty at a Chinese port. On the other hand, export duties will be collected on native goods, being an original export to Wei-hai-wei."



1898-9, 181; 1899-1900, 311. I am able from my recollection of the reports of the other Volunteers and Militia in the British colonies to say that the state of the Hongkong Volunteers compared, as judged from these reports, very favourably with the state of the other 80,000 Militia and Volunteers forming the forces of the other colonies of the Empire. (Applause.) I was a little disappointed when I arrived here to learn that the numbers had gone down to a little over 200, and also that there was a tendency on the part of the young men in Hongkong to abandon Volunteering for other amusements; and I had to consider what steps should be taken to revive interest in the corps and increase its numbers and efficiency. My experience during the five years of dealing with reports from the colonial troops of the Empire makes me believe that the best way for increasing the corps at Hongkong was to have its various component parts under conditions which would take advantage of the special circumstances of the various classes of the population. (Applause.) This was a system that I followed in the Volunteers on the Gold Coast with some success. There I found that at the various coast stations there were only a few Volunteers, not enough to make a company by themselves, and disinclined to join the African corps. So I instituted a machine gun section in each of the principal corps. At Accra, the capital, the machine gun section was mainly composed of officials under the command of an official. At Cape Coast Castle, the commercial centre, the Volunteers were mainly men in the business houses, and their commanding officer was the head of one of these houses; while at Axim the company representing the machine-gun department was made up of men mainly engaged in mining, and officials, and the commanding officer was an official. The various drills and parades fitted in with the normal work of the different detachments, and on the whole these detachments took firm root; and I was informed by the Brigadier-General who inspected them that they were a valuable addition to the defence of the Colony. Here, after carefully considering the matter, I put in hand three schemes. The first of these was to reorganise the existing Volunteers on the basis of detachments comprising men of the same department or the same firm with a view to these men always working together in their drills and services and of combining with other detachments or relieving other detachments in time of war, each detachment being told off to its definite position in the scheme of events. I believe there are some difficulties in carrying out that scheme but I think it has been on the whole favourably reviewed, and that there has been some increase in the Volunteers since it was put out. The second project was the formation of the men who owned ponies, and who were in the habit of riding about the island, into a mounted troop. I was told that I could probably get 20 men to enrol themselves in such a troop. As a matter of fact the troop which is now being enrolled consists of 25 members (applause) under Lieut. W. J. Gresson. The third project was that of a Volunteer reserve, to get hold of the men who no longer felt themselves disposed to go through the drudgery of ordinary drill or who had gone through that drudgery already. I was told that I should probably get about 100 members. As a matter of fact, by the 15th September, the date mentioned in the original notification, only 32 members had enrolled. There was a fourth project, not entirely unconnected with the other, and that was to form a first-aid class for ladies who would subsequently go through nursing classes and then register their names for service in the naval and military hospitals in time of war. Sixty-six ladies put their names to it. (Applause.) A few words now on the general question of Volunteering, and especially on Colonial Volunteering. At home the ever-increasing burden of Imperial defence, which now absorbs 80 per cent. of the revenue derived from heavy taxation, the failure of various schemes of army reorganisation to provide in the public opinion for the public good in the matter of defence, and again the failure to attract men to the army by various new inducements, have directed the minds of thinking men to the necessity of making more available the class from which the Volunteers in

England now come, and the large class who have not yet recognised the obligation of preparing themselves for personal service for the defence of their country. In the colonies this recognition of the obligation to prepare for personal service has always been more widespread than at home, and especially is that the case in colonies where there is only a small proportion of British residents living in the midst of a large number of fellow subjects of an alien race. Personally I have long been of opinion that in such colonies it is the duty of every man to prepare himself so that he may be available to assist in the defence of the colony, of his own interests, and, should occasion arise, of the women and children who live around him. (Applause.) As regards Hongkong, I am glad to say that I see no immediate prospect of the hour of need coming upon us, but in these days wars arise at short notice and their course is often largely affected by the initiatory action in them. Again, events occurring outside this colony and over which the colony has no control may produce unrest which might culminate in serious internal disturbance. Those who have taken these steps to prepare themselves for personal service in such eventualities would, I believe, have no reason to reproach themselves if such events produced even only a temporary disaster. It seems to me that personal service is a white man's burden and that we dare not stoop to less. Every form of service is a burden, but I do not think you will sympathise with those who under the call of freedom cloak their weakness. The burden imposed by the conditions of the Reserve Association is a light one, and I trust that all those in this room who are eligible will, if they have not already done so, take upon themselves this evening this burden. I do not base my appeal to you on the recreation which is likely to be derived from rifle shooting, although I hope it will prove a recreation, and I will do everything in my power to make it one. I do not, either, base my appeal on the pleasure it will give me of seeing a scheme which I have made my own a success. I only ask you to join this association for one reason, and that is the best of reasons—because it is the right thing to do. (Applause.)

HIS EXCELLENCY asked if any of those present desired to make any suggestions.

No suggestions being offered at this stage.

The CHIEF JUSTICE addressed the meeting. He said the figures quoted by His Excellency—figures, he understood, compiled by His Excellency when secretary to the Imperial Defence Committee—proved that the martial spirit which from all time had actuated our ancestors burned as brightly among their descendants in Hongkong to-day as it had ever done in any part of the Empire. (Applause.) 311 Volunteers out of the comparatively small number of Europeans in this Colony was no small proportion of the population and compared favourably with Volunteering in other parts of the dominions. We of the British race were said to be of a commercial spirit, and long might we continue so; but we were also a warlike people, and the occasion had never yet arisen when the need had been demonstrated that the people had not flocked to the standard. It was not lack of the martial spirit in this Colony which made the Volunteers small in numbers; it was because it had not hitherto been borne in upon the people as a whole that there was any necessity of undergoing what to most people was the irksome discipline necessary to be perfected and made efficient as a soldier. At the time of the unrest in the North in 1900 there was no lack of readiness to come forward and be enrolled; and should occasion unhappily arise he was sure that other men would be found to come forward for the protection of this Colony. His Excellency had removed a great difficulty from the way of most of the senior residents of the Colony. Most of them were not prepared to go in as active members of the Volunteer Corps and to go into camps of instruction and undergo discipline, partly owing to disinclination, partly owing to lack of time. His Excellency had become as it were the *Deus ex machina*, and had provided the means by which all of them who were still physically capable might perfect themselves in what seemed to be the thing, marksmanship.

(Applause.) In determining to remodel the conditions His Excellency had added considerably to the numbers of those who would send in their names should occasion unhappily arise. A good many of them were over 50 years of age and were not available under the original conditions. The colony owed His Excellency a debt of gratitude for having awakened the people to the necessity of making themselves perfect in the use of a weapon of defence as well as of offence, and he was sure His Excellency's appeal would be responded to. We were not able, thank God! at this moment to say that there was any pressing necessity for the enrolment of the members of this community, but there was the possibility that at any moment we might be in this part of the world brought to consider how best and most efficiently we might protect ourselves. On behalf of the meeting he thanked His Excellency for having brought this matter before their notice. (Applause.)

Mr. W. DANBY ventured to ask His Excellency if Mr. Hewett would give them some information as to how the Shanghai Volunteers were run. There they had practically a Volunteer Reserve, and he was sure Hongkong would not want to be second to Shanghai in that respect. As an old resident and a very old Volunteer officer in Hongkong he felt ashamed at the number of the corps here. In a colony like this there should be 500 efficient. (Applause.) Many of the men who were in that room called themselves loyal British subjects, and yet they did not belong to the Volunteers. Some of them when approached said it was not good enough; others told him candidly they were ashamed of the Volunteers.

Mr. E. A. HEWETT said he had been 12 years in Shanghai and was two years *ex officio* commandant of the Volunteer corps. The reason why the corps there was larger than in Hongkong was that they had to look to themselves for their own heads and the women and children in time of trouble and in the event of riot. Out of a population of 8,000 they had nearly 1,200 Volunteers during the summer of 1900. The Hongkong corps should at least equal that of Shanghai, for here they had advantages for becoming efficient volunteers which did not exist in Shanghai. What they wanted was that all men who could stand on their feet should come forward and learn to shoot, so that when their services were called upon they would be of some use. You could not become a marksman in two or three weeks. He hoped His Excellency's appeal would be responded to in a freer and more generous spirit than it had been hitherto. (Applause.)

Hon. GERSHOM STEWART remarked that the greatest difficulty in getting men to join was their antagonism to drill. He thought they would get in a good many men if it was clearly understood that they would shoot and only enrol themselves as an available Volunteer company in time of war. When asking people to join it was surprising to find how many were over 50, yet many of these would be extremely disagreeable people for an enemy to tackle. It was a wise thing to extend the age limit. The example of those 66 ladies who had given in their names would, he hoped, inspire the men to join the Association. It was a movement for the public good. (Applause.)

HIS EXCELLENCY—There was much that I agreed with in Sir Henry Berkeley's speech, but I noticed it contained the old fallacy that all that was required was men to come forward in the hour of need. It has been often, too often, shown that men who become soldiers at the last moment are not as useful, not a quarter as useful, as men who have had at any rate some previous training. This opinion has already been expressed by Mr. Hewett. There is much also that I agreed with in the remarks that fell from Mr. Danby, for he put them possibly a little more directly than I should have been able to do. (Applause.) With regard to Mr. Hewett's remark about volunteering being more real in Shanghai than it is in Hongkong because we have here our Garrison, I would say we want to tie that garrison down as little as possible to operations in or near the town, so that it may act to the best general defence of the Colony. With regard to Mr. Gershom Stewart's



question as to whether the Volunteer Reserve Association, in contradistinction to the Volunteer Corps, should be called upon to do any drill. I have to say it is not contemplated, it is not proposed, to do any drill. What is proposed is that they should make themselves efficient shots. I think there remains nothing for me to do but to thank you, gentlemen, for coming to this meeting and taking an interest in this subject.

On the motion of Mr. HEWETT, a vote of thanks was awarded His Excellency for the steps he had taken to awaken interest in the Volunteering movement in Hongkong.

The meeting then dispersed.

## DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP CO., LD.

### ANNUAL MEETING.

The twenty-first ordinary meeting of the Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd., was held on the 28th ult. at the offices of the Company. Mr. H. P. White (chairman) presided, and there were also present Hon. R. Shewan, Mr. A. G. Wood (directors), Mr. T. F. Hough, J. E. Gomes, Mr. Chun King Yue, Mr. Chan You Ting, and Mr. E. G. Remedios (secretary).

The SECRETARY having read the notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen,—The report and accounts having been in your hands for some days I will, with your permission, following the usual custom, take them as read. It is a matter of regret that the accounts do not show a better result, but shareholders must bear in mind that the year 1903 was one of particular depression in the shipping trade of the world, which rendered competition more keen than ever. The outbreak of the war benefited us in a measure, but not to the extent we could have hoped, as although the regular steamers of the competing line were withdrawn from their usual runs, for transport services, their places were immediately filled by specially chartered steamers, so that competition in the Coast and Formosa trades was still rigorously kept up. I am glad, however, to be able to state that during the latter part of the period under review the actual trade of the Company showed a slight improvement on the working of the last few years, an improvement that we sincerely trust will be maintained. What effect the ultimate outcome of the war will have on trade in the East, and on our trade in particular, is difficult to forecast, but without being unduly sanguine, we venture to think we may look for better times, which, if they come, the Company is in a sound position to take advantage of. In the circumstances the general managers and consulting committee, after due consideration, have decided to declare a dividend of 4 per cent. out of the profits of the year's working, apportioning the balance to depreciation as set forth in the report. As regards the present year's working, the earnings so far have been fairly satisfactory, in spite of delays on account of typhoons and typhoon warnings. All the steamers of the Company are at present fairly well employed, and we have hope that at the next general meeting we shall be in a position to present a more favourable balance sheet. Before proposing the adoption of the report and accounts, I shall be pleased to answer any questions that shareholders may wish to put.

There being no questions,

The CHAIRMAN moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. T. F. HOUGH—Mr. Chairman and gentlemen,—I have looked through the report, and considering the year's working that it deals with, I think the shareholders will consider it satisfactory. I have followed your remarks, sir, with a certain amount of interest, and I am glad to hear that you hold out such hopeful views for the future. I beg to second the motion.

The motion was agreed to.

Mr. T. F. HOUGH proposed the re-election of Hon. W. J. Gresson, Hon. R. Shewan, Messrs. C. H. Thompson and A. G. Wood as the consulting committee.

Mr. J. E. GOMES seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN moved that Messrs. W. H. Potts and A. R. Lowe be re-elected auditors.

Mr. T. F. HOUGH seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen.

## WILLIAM POWELL, LD.

### ANNUAL MEETING.

The third ordinary general meeting of the shareholders in William Powell, Ltd., was held on the 27th ult. in the Company's premises at 28, Queen's Road Central. Mr. W. H. Gaskell (chairman) presided, and there were also present Messrs. E. H. Hinds (director), A. G. Stokes, T. Arnold, G. H. Dann, A. G. Ward, J. W. C. Bonnar, T. Arnold, R. G. Heckford (manager), H. P. Smith (auditor), and E. A. M. Williams (secretary).

The SECRETARY having read the notice calling the meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen,—The report and statement of accounts having been in your hands for some time, with your permission I will follow the usual course and take them as read. It is gratifying to your directors to again be able to place before you a satisfactory report on the year's working of the Company. On perusing the accounts you will observe that we have now arrived at a 12 per cent. dividend for the year, while at the same time we have been able to write off from the profits the balance of goodwill, to provide for the deterioration of stock on hand, and to set aside a small sum—\$3,00—towards maintaining a steady dividend. The amount carried forward to new account is \$588.28 as against \$4,757.42 brought forward from last year; but in respect of this I wish to say that we carry forward less this year, having nothing further to provide for goodwill. We have still pursued our policy of writing down our stock on hand, bringing it to the lowest possible laying down cash; as the Company progresses the provision necessary in this direction diminishes year by year. Since we last met we have moved into our new premises in Des Vœux Road and find them most suitable to our requirements. I am pleased to be able to tell you that we have commenced our new financial year satisfactorily, the takings for the months of July and August exceeding those months of last year. Our manager, Mr. Heckford, owing to ill health, wishes to leave for home six months prior to the expiry of his agreement, to which your directors have consented. A new manager has already been engaged. I do not think there is anything further to add to my remarks, but I shall be pleased to give any information or answer any questions shareholders may wish.

There being no questions,

The CHAIRMAN formally moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. A. G. STOKES seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

The CHAIRMAN—During the year, owing to the departure of Mr. T. H. Reid and Mr. Clement Drew for home, Mr. E. H. Hinds and myself were invited to join the Board. Our appointment now requires to be confirmed.

Mr. T. ARNOLD moved the confirmation of the appointment as directors of Messrs. Gaskell and Hinds.

Mr. A. G. WARD seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

Mr. J. W. C. BONNAR moved the re-election of Mr. H. P. Smith as auditor.

Mr. J. ARNOLD seconded, and the motion was agreed to.

Mr. SMITH—I thank you, gentlemen, for your confidence, and I hope to prove that I deserve it.

Mr. G. H. DANN—Before the closing of the meeting, gentlemen, I have much pleasure in proposing a vote of thanks to the directors and staff for the very careful manner in which they have looked after our interests. The figures in the report which we have just adopted speak so well for themselves that any further comment seems superfluous. I will, however, say this: that for a company to have arrived at the results obtained after so short a time has elapsed since its formation shows that much foresight and care have been exercised by those in control. I observe that the directors' fees are \$1,000 in all. That is, I think, inadequate, considering the time and attention the directors devote to the working of the Company. In proposing our thanks to the Board, I beg,

therefore, to move that the directors' remuneration be increased from \$1,000 to \$2,000 in all per annum.

Mr. T. ARNOLD—I think the remarks Mr. Dann has made will be endorsed by the general body of the shareholders. At any rate, I for one thoroughly agree with everything that has been said, and I have much pleasure in seconding the motion. At the same time I think the general body of shareholders will regret the ill health which obliges Mr. Heckford to give up control of the business.

The motion was agreed to unanimously.

The CHAIRMAN—I have to thank you, Mr. Dann and gentlemen, on behalf of myself and my co-director, Mr. Hinds, for the vote of thanks you have passed to us and the management staff, and also for the increased emoluments to the directors. We are much obliged to you, and we shall continue to employ our best endeavours on behalf of the Company, which we hope to see continue in a prosperous condition. (Hear, hear.) There is nothing further before the meeting. Dividend warrants may be had now on application. That is all the business.

The meeting then dispersed.

## CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LD.

The report for presentation to the shareholders at the twenty-third ordinary general meeting to be held on October 21st reads as follows:—

The general agents and consulting committee beg to submit to the shareholders the final accounts for the year 1903.

1903 Account.—The result of the year's working is a credit balance of \$145,494.34, out of which, and with the approval of the shareholders, it is proposed to pay a dividend of 34 per cent. (= \$17 per share), to add \$100,000 to the reserve fund, raising the latter to \$1,400,000, place \$25,000 to the credit of re-insurance fund, and to carry forward the balance of \$150,494.34 to the current year's account.

1904 Account.—To date the working of the office compares favourably with that of the previous year.

### CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

Since the last meeting Mr. J. H. Lewis has resigned his seat. To meet this vacancy Mr. H. P. White was nominated, and his appointment requires the confirmation of shareholders. The present members, the Hon. Sir Paul Chater, C.M.G., Messrs. D. E. Brown, F. Maitland, H. P. White, and E. Shellim, retire, but offer themselves for re-election.

### AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. W. H. Potts and R. Chatterton Wilcox, and their re-election is recommended.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co.,  
General Agents.

The accounts are as follows:—

### STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT for the year ending 31st December, 1903.

| LIABILITIES.                           |                | \$             | c. |
|----------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----|
| Capital subscribed .....               | \$2,500,000.00 |                |    |
| Amount paid-up .....                   | 500,000.00     |                |    |
| Reserve fund .....                     | 1,300,000.00   |                |    |
| Re-insurance fund .....                | 56,739.01      |                |    |
| Outstanding dividends .....            | 8,996.00       |                |    |
| Balance of working account, 1903 ..... | 445,494.34     |                |    |
|                                        |                | \$2,311,229.35 |    |

| ASSETS.                                                                    |              | \$             | c. |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|----|
| Cash, on current account with Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation .. | 11,657.54    |                |    |
| Fixed deposits, with banks in Hongkong ..                                  | 225,000.00   |                |    |
| Mortgages and debentures, in Hongkong and Shanghai ..                      | 1,489,361.85 |                |    |
| Chinese Imperial Government loan, 1886 ..                                  | 48,268.50    |                |    |
| United States bonds (4 per cent. loan, 1925) ..                            | 400,000.00   |                |    |
| Japanese Government bonds ..                                               | 117,850.55   |                |    |
| Accounts receivable .....                                                  | 19,690.90    |                |    |
|                                                                            |              | \$2,311,229.35 |    |

### WORKING ACCOUNT, 1903.

|                                                              | \$             | c. |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----|
| To amount brought forward from last account .....            | 110,551.96     |    |
| To net premia received, less returns and re-insurances ..... | 1,696,920.18   |    |
| To interest .....                                            | 151,188.28     |    |
| To transfer fees .....                                       | 79.00          |    |
|                                                              | \$1,958,739.42 |    |



## BRITISH AND FOREIGN TRADE AT SINGAPORE.

We extract the following paragraphs from the admirably compiled Report of the Registrar of Imports and Exports, on the trade of Singapore during 1903:—

The trade of the year 1903 cannot be termed satisfactory.

Imports record a fair expansion generally in quantities and values, but exports show an actual dollar decrease.

The rise in import dollar value was over 8½ per cent., and in sterling value nearly 12½ per cent.,

Exports declined in dollar value by about ½ per cent., and increased in sterling value by 2 per cent.,

These sterling values are applied to all articles irrespective of country of origin, but the value of goods from silver currency countries is not affected by fluctuations in sterling exchange to the same extent as articles from a gold country.

In accordance with its expressed intention of giving a fixed sterling value to the dollar, the Government imported a new Straits dollar to take the place of the Mexican and British coin current, and in furtherance of this policy, prohibited its export to places outside the Colony and Federated Malay States, at the same time disallowing the further import of Mexican and British dollars.

The Federated Malay States Government found it necessary during the year to place a duty on tin ore intended to be smelted outside the Colony, an American company having taken steps with the object of exporting the ore to the United States.

The industry was probably considered to be too intimately bound up with the welfare of the Colony and the Federated Malay States, to permit of its subjection to the speculative operations of American trusts.

The effects of American tariffs and Protectionist policy had been sufficiently demonstrated by the action of the United States Government in not only placing a high duty on refined coconut oil from this market, which showed a trade with the United States in 1902 of over \$93,000, and for a portion of 1903, of \$110,000, but of attempting to collect the duty on all previous shipments, the result finally being that the local company was obliged to sell its plant to a firm on the American seaboard.

The two principal features which exercised most influence on trade during the year were the constant fall in the market prices of staple articles of produce, and the fluctuations in exchange.

Out of a total European value of 9.9/10 million dollars representing metals imported, the United Kingdom sent to the value of 6.9/10 million, an increase of 39½ per cent., showing large advances in hardware and ironware, machinery, corrugated iron, brassware and especially telegraph materials.

The continent of Europe sent to the value of nearly 2.7/10 million dollars, an increase of over 48 per cent., the absolute increases being close on two million dollars for the United Kingdom, of which telegraph materials contributed over ½ million, and about \$870,000 increase for the Continent.

Decreased export values are seen to the United Kingdom by 6½ million dollars, or over 10 per cent., while to the United States the value increased by over 3½ million dollars, or 9½ per cent., and to the continent of Europe by 7/10 million dollars 1 or over 4½ per cent.

This unsatisfactory state of affairs is by some attributed to the cheap freights to America, and the free exercise of optional bills of lading to Continental ports at minimum rates, results directly attributable to the operation of the Shipping Ring called the Straits Homeward Conference.

Mr. E. A. Ormiston, the manager of the Mercantile Bank of India, Limited, at Hong-kong, recently received a telegram from the London office that the directors have declared an interim dividend of 5 per cent. on "A" shares and 5 per cent. on "B" shares, free of income tax.

## SINGAPORE HARBOUR SCHEMES.

This is an extract from the speech of the chairman of the Singapore Chamber of Commerce, delivered on September 22nd:

I venture to say there is no member present, who would not welcome any rational scheme that may ensure a convenient boat harbour to relieve the Singapore River. A strong and influential body of opinion however undoubtedly exists against throwing away millions of dollars on costly harbour works wherein a comparatively small portion of our shipping would derive benefit, and the protection for which is only required during a few months in the year.

If Mr. Matthews' plans were based on a far-reaching scheme, which would ultimately include the ocean-going steamers, there might be less objection raised, but there is no such intention, as, to use his own words, the enormous expenditure, which would be required for "the provision of effective shelter over an extensive area" even if a "practicable scheme could be devised, would not be justified under any circumstances." We contend therefore that the present scheme is far too elaborate and too costly for the requirements of our local trade. I know there is a tendency to meet any criticism upon the scheme by the assertion that it has been decided by an expert, and that outside criticism is therefore beyond the pale of controversy or discussion. Allow me to make the attitude of the Chamber quite clear in that respect. We do not criticise the scheme on technical grounds. We have no desire to override Mr. Matthews' acknowledged authority as an expert of high standing. We do, however, and can express our judgment that the facilities within the reach of modern engineering science are not unequal to the task of finding an alternative scheme more suitable to the requirements of our port, without the enormous expenditure the fulfilment of Mr. Matthews' plans will entail. Moreover, we believe that instead of waiting 8 to 10 years to overcome the difficulties of the present situation, a modified scheme could be evolved, which within half that period would be attended with a full measure of success.—Free Press.

## RIVER STEAMER BURNT OUT.

The 65-ton, Chinese-owned, river steamer *Saining*, Capt. Ip Fuk, was burnt out, while anchored at East Point, and sank on the 27th ult. She had 2,800 cases, representing about 100 tons, of kerosene oil aboard, besides 20 tons of general merchandise, and was about to leave for the West River. Some 1,500 cases were insured with the Commercial Insurance Company, and 1,300 with the North China Insurance Company, the insurances being effected at \$3 per case, aggregating \$8,400.

At about 11 p.m. the vessel appeared to be making water, while, as a matter of fact, oil was leaking from the oil-cans. The firemen went down below to rake up the fires and get steam on the donkey boiler, so as to rid the ship of the supposed water. Red cinders from the donkey, it is said, must have by some means got into the hold and started the fire.

The vessel was burnt to the water-line. The water made its way into her hold, and she sank. The blaze was very fierce, reddening the sky over a great area. From the very appearance of the huge tongues of fire it was at once concluded that it was an oil-ship. The Fire Brigade came out with their fire-boat, but it was, of course, no good pumping water on to burning oil. At daylight kerosene was floating all about the harbour, and could be smelled everywhere.

The compradore of Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co. is the owner of the vessel.

The brigade and fire-boat, under Mr. E. R. Hallifax and Mr. H. G. Baker, rendered what assistance they could. When the police boat arrived on the scene those on board, 13 in number, jumped overboard and were all rescued by P.C. 62 Norman. There was a dog, however, which remained on the burning vessel for quite half an hour, when Mr. Langley, inspector of the water police, went near with his boat and whistled. The dog jumped overboard, and was rescued—in a very sorry plight indeed, for the hair had been almost completely singed off its back. The

helpers did not tow the ship away, because she might have got adrift, a danger in the harbour. They thought it much safer to leave her and let her burn herself out where she was. When the vessel sank, at about 1.30 a.m., a remarkable spectacle was witnessed. She went by the stern, the bow up in air. There was a hissing, a roar of the smothering flames, a dense volume of smoke, and the steamer, all but a small piece of the funnel, disappeared from view. For some 50 square yards the water was covered with burning oil. What was feared, at the time, was that it would float in towards the Dutch Petroleum Co.'s works. The tide, however, was setting towards the Lyeemun Pass, so it carried the oil in this direction. The float, with some four hose-pipes, kept playing water around the edge of the oil, but it burned for an hour. It is said that the steamer's composite bottom had something to do with keeping her afloat so long. The float had just made fast to her, with the mooring chain (that of the float), to try and hold her in case the vessel broke adrift, when she sank. Those on board the float were obliged to let go the chain.

## BLAZE AT WEST POINT.

HOUSE GUTTED—TWO PERSONS INJURED.

No. 45, First Street, a coolie dwelling-house, was completely gutted on the 25th ult. A ricksha-puller residing there was so burnt about the face that he was removed to hospital; and a little girl had her hands blistered. It is generally understood that the place was not insured; no doubts seem to be entertained about its being an accident. The occurrence is reported as follows:—

As Mr. Collett, the police inspector in charge of Western District, was sitting down to his lunch, at 1.50 p.m. yesterday, a report of a house being on fire in First Street—which afterwards proved to be No. 45—was made to him. Almost immediately afterwards the clock tower bell clanged a general alarm in Queen's Road Central; and the fire brigade, under Mr. Baker (chief inspector of police), hurried to the scene. They were not long in getting there but even in the few moments that elapsed the conflagration had so spread that tongues of fire were protruding from both first and second floor windows. At 2 p.m. the firemen directed a jet of water on to the burning building, a ground, first and second floor Chinese house. Some little delay was caused by one of the hydrants being out of order, obliging the men to connect up with a more distant one. The fire escapes were promptly put into position, allowing the ladder men to play water in the most effectual manner. A throng of Chinese, men, children and even women carrying infants, crowded in a dense mass round about. They became such a nuisance, indeed, that the police were obliged to handle the foremost and most daring, thereby causing such a panic that a European approaching the scene had to almost fight his way to prevent himself from being charged down. The fire was well under control in about half an hour; and completely extinguished some 30 minutes later. By this time, although the walls and roof were intact, the interior was completely gutted. The firemen thought it advisable to remove the roof. This one of them did by standing sheltered in an arched window and directing a strong play on to the pottery overhead, sending showers of water and masonry in all directions.

It was afterwards gleaned that at the time of the outbreak the Chinaman mentioned, who was subsequently removed to hospital, was asleep. Waking up with a start, he made a mad rush for the staircase, where he was so badly burned that he was obliged to return to the room—imprisoned with almost certain death before him. Neighbours, however, in a Queen's Road house backing First Street, observed his distress, and managed to make a plank connection from window to window. The man's life was thereby saved, for he managed to crawl across at no little risk of falling. His face was in a bad state, and the hair singed off head and eyebrows. The little girl managed to "run the gauntlet" shortly after the outbreak, but not without burning her hands.



## HONGKONG PILOTS.

The first examination of candidates for pilots' certificates was to have been held at the Harbour Office on the 27th ult., but as this was not convenient, it has been postponed for a week. When the Hon. Capt. L. Barnes-Lawrence, R.N., the Harbour Master, was called on by a *Daily Press* representative yesterday morning he was kind enough to give the following interesting details:

"Altogether six Europeans and some eight Chinese have sent in their names. It is masters in the Mercantile Marine, particularly, we want to get hold of. Each candidate, whether Chinese or European, will be examined on his own merits. We do not favour Europeans in any way, but we wish to get them. If Chinese manage to pass, naturally they will be employed. The requirements consist of a thorough local knowledge of winds, tides, shoals, the situation of buoys, depths of water, the rule of the road, how to handle both steamers and sailing-ships, and other knowledge of practical seamanship. The candidates will also have to have a certain knowledge of English. Not necessarily all who pass will be licensed to act as pilots. There will, in fact, be only a few, so that we may be able to control them. Those Chinese at present acting as pilots, if they are able to pass their examination, will be the first, naturally, to receive licences. Pilotage is not compulsory."

In the rules and regulations for pilots it is provided that pilot boats plying for hire shall display a white and red (horizontal) flag with a blue "P" in the centre. Licences will be renewed annually. Pilots infringing the regulations render themselves liable to suspension of their licences, as well as to penalties of \$50. Applicants pay a fee to the Harbour Master of \$30; and a fee of \$5 must be paid for a licence. Pilots' legal charges for various services vary between \$5 and \$20.

## THE R.C. CATHEDRAL CAMPANILE

## COMPLETION OF THE WORK.

For some time past the Roman Catholic Cathedral has been undergoing extensive alterations and additions, which, now that they are completed, add considerably to its architectural appearance as a whole.

On the south side of the Cathedral a porch has been added with direct approach to the nave. The columns and piers of the porch are of fine punched stone, with moulded stone bases, and plaster caps supporting moulded arches, above which is some pleasing tracery of simple design, the whole being surmounted with a bold moulded coping formed into a gable over each of the five arches.

The campanile or belfry tower stands isolated in close proximity to the Cathedral, and rises to a height of 110 feet to the parapet, the total height to the cross above being 160 feet.

With the exception of the solid-looking base, which is of stone, the tower is constructed of Canton red bricks, and is divided into four storeys, the upper one of which forms the belfry and contains a peal of five bells manufactured by George Pruneri of Milan. The largest bell is dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary and weighs 1,000 kilos or 2,200 lbs. Its surface is richly embellished with small panels containing figures of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the Apostles, wrought in silver; and the Latin inscription "We trust in Thee" surmounts the whole. The other bells are dedicated to Saint Joseph, Saint Francis, Saint Alexander and Saint Anthony, and weigh 660, 480, 370 and 260 kilos, or 1,452, 1,056, 814, and 572 lbs. respectively. These are similarly decorated with panels and figures of Saints and other symbolic enrichments, and have the following inscriptions written upon them in Latin:—

"Comfort us in our last hour."

"The voice of God is all powerful and grand."

"If God is with us who can stand against us?"

"Day and night I sing the praise of God."

Internally and externally the walls are finished off with plaster, the exterior being richly embellished with mouldings and ornaments of a leafy character.

At ground level the campanile measures 28 feet 6 inches, and is strengthened at each corner

by two massive buttresses that project outward 4 feet, gradually receding as they soar upwards, to the level of the belfry where they terminate.

On the top of the tower the four corners are finished off with gracefully tapered pinnacles—octagonal in shape, terminated by dainty finials which add considerably to the soaring effect of the whole structure. The design is essentially Gothic in feeling, in order to harmonise with the rest of the Cathedral and is treated in a broad and simple manner.

The eastern facade of the campanile is more richly embellished than the others, the entrance door way especially helping to impart a certain richness to the pile. It has a square-headed double door with wrought-iron ornamental hinges of pleasing design, fine punched stone reveals and lintel, with the date of erection inscribed thereon and a deeply recessed arch and cove embellished with moulded tracery, supported by plaster columns and ornamental caps; and above there is some more tracery of similar design to that of the porch, which is surmounted by a row of beautifully modelled niches of rich design. The centre niche is considerably larger than the others and contains a life-size statue of Jesus of Nazareth holding a cross in his left hand (with one finger significantly pointing upwards), while the other hand is extended in mute appeal. These richly decorated niches are relieved by the simplicity of the wall arcading immediately above.

The four external walls of the belfry are marked by slender shafts and decorated capitals of bold design. The massive cornice is composed of large and simple mouldings relieved here and there by a touch of ornamentation, in striking contrast to the very rich frieze below. The whole is crowned by a slanting roof of picturesque outline covered with green Westmorland slates and finished off with a gold-coloured wrought-iron ornamental cresting, surmounted by a Latin Cross. This graceful finish to a fine structure, together with its creamy tropical colour wash, and its favourable position at the foot of beautiful Glenealy, allows the campanile to be prominently seen from all points of view.

Mr. W. Danby, M.I.C.E., was the architect of the campanile, which is not the least imposing of the many architectural works for which he is responsible in the Colony. The work was carried out under the supervision of Mr. W. P. Lambert, of Mr. Danby's office.

## WHY THERE IS NO TSAR-KAISER TREATY.

*Der Ostasiatische Lloyd* characterises the *Times's* discovery of an agreement between the Tsar of Russia and the German Emperor as nonsense. Arguing that they had had no opportunity of making such an agreement, it describes the two rulers at billiards, and states that the Far Eastern question was only cursorily mentioned. *Vide yesterday's Daily Press.* The following rhymes are an attempt to give vraisemblance to the German version of the incident.]

"Shall I take spot?" great Nicholas asked.

The Kaiser chalked his cue.

"I really do not mind," he said,

"I'll give you points a few."

"On how to start my Baltic fleet?"

Wilhelm threw down the chalk.

"No, no. I mean the handicap."

The Tsar then played in baulk.

As Wilhelm "cannoned off the cushion,"

And made a break of eight,

The Tsar kept murmuring that he'd like

To wipe things "off the slate."

His mind was not on netted balls

But on his bottled fleet,

He wanted Togo to be jammed

And Oki to retreat.

"Say, Wilhelm, can you sell those ships?"

Said Wilhelm: "Pass the rest."

The Tsar glanced at the marking board.

The Kaiser played with zest.

He "shopped the red" and "went in-off."

The Tsar said "Let's agree

That if Japan should win this game

You'll fake the score for me."

The Kaiser looked him in the eye:

"Now understand me right.

It's billiards that we're playing now;

I never 'shop the white."

## TRADE ITEMS.

The Japanese administration at Newchwang has, with the sanction of the I. G., increased the duty on opium and decreased it on salt and medicines.

The Hanoi Exposition had cost to the 30th June last a sum of 2,845,173 francs. The Budget of Tonkin bears nearly a million and a half of this sum, the remainder being borne by the budgets of Cochin-China, Annam and Cambodge.

Mr. Winkler of Newchwang had a branch store in Liaoyang which was looted by Russian soldiers previous to their evacuating the place. Goods were stolen to the value of 10,000 roubles.

A wealthy Chinese merchant named Chow has obtained the electric light concession for Peking which Taotai Wei is unable to carry out in consequence of having obtained an appointment in Nanking.

Certain Chinese officials in Peking are working for the construction of a Belgian line from Changsha to Shanghai, but, says the *Peking Times*, nothing is known yet as to whether they will secure the grant.

Mr. T. P. Cochrane, the manager of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China, received from the London Office, on the 29th ultimo, a telegram advising him that a dividend had been declared for the past half year to 30th June, 1904, at 11 per cent. p.a. free Income Tax.

The two French steamers, *Paul Beau* and *Charles Hardouin*, are still lying idle in the river near Canton. The result of the meeting of creditors of the bankrupt firm to which they belong has not transpired, but it is unlikely that the vessels will be put on the Canton run again.

A planter writing in the *Times of Ceylon* (from the Kepitigalla estate) mentions that his original method of tapping rubber trees produces 95 per cent. of first quality, and only five per cent. of "scrap" rubber. There are many methods, but we should like to have this excellent one described.

The projected Mission to Southern Persia will leave India about the end of September. It will be purely commercial in character, and will consist of representatives of the various Chambers of Commerce, who all appear to be favourably disposed towards the proposal. The Mission will be accompanied by some Persian officials, but no definite arrangements have yet been made as to this. It will cover that part of Persia regarding which we have least information at present, and which can readily be served from the Gulf ports. The Mission will be absent from India about six months in all.—*Pioneer Mail.*

Glengarry caps at 4d. each is an item on a list of "special lines for export" received in Singapore from a firm at Home, says the *Free Press*. The list largely deals with soldier's clothes and equipment, and from the prices quoted they must be either rejects, discards or old stock. The list is tempting: soldiers' grey overcoats, \$2; cavalry blue cloaks, lined red, with capes, \$4.50; police tunics, 80 cents; railway porters' trousers 50 cents; plaid dittos, ditto; assorted volunteer tunics, 70 cents; black serge jackets, 40 cents; riding saddles, \$6 to \$7; military haversacks, a dollar a dozen; Kaffir suits (whatever they may be), any colour, with pockets, from \$1; Government waterproof ground sheets, \$1.60, and new cavalry swords with steel scabbards, \$1.60. The last is surely a "cutting price," as the firm in question is fond of quoting for its biggest bargains.

A roofing not commonly used in this part of the world, although it has stood the test of 12 years' wear in other parts, is described by the *Singapore Free Press* as on sale at that port. "Ruberoid" is a wool felt, saturated with a well-known water and acid-proof compound, and contains no tar, pitch, asphalt or rubber. There is therefore nothing to decay or wash off, and is easily kept in repair. It is sold in rolls of various thicknesses, and is especially adapted to the tropics since there is nothing to melt, nothing to paint, nothing to crack, and it keeps out the heat well. It may be laid on wire netting, and being vermin-proof seems an ideal material for this part of the world, where white-ants and rot play such havoc with ordinary materials. It is also recommended as a damp-proof course, being impermeable to water. The agents will be glad to give all particulars desired.



They are building a fine new market at Seremban, according to the *Perak Pioneer*.

Mining in Siam is practically confined to tin, gems (sapphires and rubies), and gold; their relative importance being in the order given.

Mr. M. S. E. Angullia, the head of one of the largest native firms of general merchants and commission agents in Singapore, died on September 20th.

H.M. Consul at Tamsui reports that the use of flour by the inhabitants of Formosa continues to increase, the imports in 1903 being 68,365 cwts., valued at £33,644, as against 52,479 cwts., valued at £21,876, in 1902. The greater part comes from the United States via Hongkong.

Judgment was given on the 19th instant for the plaintiff, W. P. Boyd, against the defendant, the American China Development Co., in the sum of \$13,519 gold currency of the United States of America. The judgment, which was on account of wrongful dismissal of the plaintiff, also carried the costs of the action. The Company is appealing against the decision of the American Consular Court.

The President of the Chamber of Mines, speaking at a meeting at Johannesburg last month, said that the effect of the employment of Chinese in the New Comet Mine was that 136 white men were now working in the mine as compared with 34 in the month before the arrival of the Chinese. Mr. Schumacher stated, on behalf of Messrs. Eckstein, that the Chinese would in no way take the bread out of the mouth of any white.

A new Cable Company, called the German-Dutch Telegraph Company, has been formed at Cologne to lay a cable in connection with the cable lines of the Dutch Indies, from Menado, in Celebes, via Guam and Japan, to Shanghai. The new cable will be connected in Guam with the American Pacific cable from San Francisco to the Philippines, and in Shanghai with the German cable running from Shanghai, via Tsing-tau, to Chi-fu, as well as with the Great Northern Telegraph line and the Eastern Extension Telegraph Company's line. The new line will be subsidised by the German and Dutch Governments.

Americans watching the development of the Philippine Islands will, says the *Kalamazoo Gazette*, be interested to know that F. H. Oliphant, of the United States geological survey, predicts that in a few years petroleum will be one of the commodities exported from the Islands. When pumped from the earth the Philippine oils are usually dark green in colour. By refining, an average of 8 per cent. benzine is produced from the crude petroleum and about 40 per cent. illuminating oil. The remainder is gas oil and tar. From the latter paraffin is extracted. The cost of getting the crude oils is very low as compared with the expenses in most other countries. Labour at the wells is extremely cheap, ranging from 10 to 12 cents a day. For this price both the native and Chinese labourers give a full day's work and provide their own lodging and sustenance.

In the report on Weihaiwei for the year 1903, recently issued by the Colonial Office, it is stated that the increase in exports and imports is satisfactory, but there is still much room for improvement. There will be no great development until capital is attracted to Weihaiwei. It is true that silk is made, and that the manufacture of bean cake has been commenced on a small scale, but what is desirable is that the silk, bean cake, and other industries should be started on a large scale, with sufficient capital to enable these products to hold their own in the market against those of Chinese ports. There can be no doubt that, as regards trade, there are many possibilities at Weihaiwei. What is wanted is capital to convert these possibilities, and it is hoped that when affairs in the Far East become more settled the chief requisite, capital, will be invested in commercial enterprises there. The leased area of Weihaiwei is 285 square miles, and the population is estimated at 150,000, including 2,000 on the island. The British sphere of influence adjoining the leased area covers 1,500 square miles. A report on the agricultural and afforestation possibilities of Weihaiwei by Mr. Dunn, Superintendent of the Botanical and Afforestation Department, Hongkong, is printed as part of the publication. We might make a cutting reference to these possibilities, but refrain.

The Rangoon Municipal Committee, in accordance with the Indian Tramways Act, has given its consent to the construction of an electric tramway within the Municipal limits, by Messrs. Darwood and Co., contractors for lighting Rangoon with electricity.

The Customs Taotai at Shanghai has complained to the Japanese Consul-General there that there has been imported lately from Japan a number of umbrellas with sharp-pointed knives concealed in the handles, and that during the past few days several law-abiding people have been stabbed with these in the hands of bad characters. The articles are made by a Japanese merchant at Yokohama, and not only has the sale of them been prohibited at Shanghai, but the Japanese Consul has been asked to communicate with the authorities at Yokohama with a view to stopping the export of them, and the Customs examiners have been instructed to keep a sharp lookout for them at Shanghai and treat them as munitions of war.

A special meeting of the Shanghai General Chamber of Commerce was held on the 22nd ultimo, the principal object being to hear from Mr. J. W. Jamieson, the British Commercial Attaché, a statement in regard to the provisional Regulations governing registration of trade marks, which have recently been circulated under the terms of the British Treaty with China and which are due to come into force on the 23rd instant. Mr. Jamieson had kindly responded to the invitation sent to him, to give such information as he might consider, from his official position, he might be competent to give, and the members of the Chamber turned up in large numbers to hear, if not to criticise, him. The principal point made by Mr. Jamieson in a long and interesting statement was that under Regulation 8 (c) holders of old trade marks (in use for two years before an application to register them by anyone else) would have greater protection than they have at present. Mr. Scott criticised this and other statements of Mr. Jamieson as well as the Regulations themselves in a long and carefully prepared speech. Eventually on the proposition of Mr. C. Brodersen, seconded by Sir Charles Dudgeon, it was resolved to appoint a sub-committee to consider the Regulations and report to the Committee of the Chamber, who would forward it to the British Minister at Peking to enable him to obtain the postponement of the coming into force of the Regulations, previously asked for by cable.—*N.-C. Daily News*.

#### HONGKONG.

Basel Mission Chapel, at Shauiwan, has been added to the list of places licensed for the solemnization of marriages.

An incident which might have caused a serious accident occurred at the Magistracy compound the 26th ult., when some masonry near the roof tumbled down.

Mr. and Mrs. L. Bridou have arrived from Shanghai. Mr. Bridou will be in charge of the M. M. S. agency here during the absence on leave of Mr. G. de Champeaux.

The marriage between Commander Guy R. Gaunt, R.N., H.M.S. *Vengeance*, China Squadron, and Margaret, widow of Mr. Philip Jukes Worthington, of Leek, Staffordshire, second daughter of Sir Thomas Wardle, of Leek and Swainsley, takes place at Hongkong in November.

Newly joined Hongkong Volunteers are Messrs. A. E. Wright, F. H. Dillon, C. E. Frith, G. W. Coysh, C. W. Ward, R. Duncan, S. G. Hames, E. F. Casey, C. M. S. Alves, and F. Ward. Messrs. A. C. Squair, P. Deacon, J. Peak, W. H. Russell, and J. H. Longhurst have given up Volunteering.

The name of Alice Deborah Sibree has been added to the register of medical and surgical practitioners qualified to practise medicine and surgery in this Colony. She is a licentiate of the Edinburgh Royal College of Physicians and of Surgeons; and of the Glasgow Faculty Physicians and Surgeons.

For the first time this season the Hongkong M.O.H. is privileged to record a full week clear of plague. The year's total stands at five hundred cases exactly. There was no case during the forty-eight hours ending noon yesterday. "Other communicable diseases" were a case of diphtheria and a case of enteric, both Chinese.

On the 25th ult. the funeral took place at Happy Valley of Mr. A. E. Ewing, of the Kowloon Docks joinery department. Mr. Ewing was 35 years of age. He died at the Peak Hospital on Saturday morning, after a week's stay there, from acute pneumonia. A large number of the Dock employees and other friends of the deceased attended the funeral.

Among the votes passed in the Estimates for 1905 is the sum of \$13,000 for adding an additional storey to the Central Police Station. This work has now been in the hands of the P.W.D. for a considerable time. The scaffolding was erected long ago, and it was rumoured that the cause of the delay in pushing on operations was that it had been discovered that the walls were not capable of carrying another storey. There appears to have been no truth in the story, however, for the roof is now being taken off and the work of heightening the walls will be set about in due course.

The marriage of Sir Thomas Montgomery Cunningham, Bart., to Miss Alice Des Vœux, takes place in a few weeks' time, said the *Globe* last month. The bride-elect is the elder daughter of Sir George Des Vœux, G.C.M.G., who has been successively Governor of the Bahama Isles, of Fiji, of Newfoundland, and of Hongkong. Her mother is a daughter of the late Sir John Pender; and, originally of French extraction, the Des Vœuxs settled in Ireland some two centuries ago, and the first baronet held several administrative posts in India. The present baronet is a cousin of Miss Des Vœux. The Cunninghames of Corshill are a well-known West of Scotland family, and the present head of the family claims the Earldom of Glencairn. He is a captain in the Rifle Brigade, and gained the D.S.O. in the recent South African Campaign. His father also saw service in the same distinguished regiment in the Crimea, where he won the V.C. From 1874 to 1880 he represented the Ayr Burghs in the House of Commons.

At St. John's Cathedral on the 24th ult. the wedding took place of Mr. J. Scott Harston, of Messrs. Ewins and Harston, and eldest son of Mr. G. A. Harston, of Wentworth House, Harrogate, and Miss Dick-Melbourne, youngest daughter of the late Hon. C. S. Dick-Melbourne, M.L.C., of Rockhampton, Queensland, and a sister of Mr. C. D. Melbourne, Chief Clerk of the Magistracy in Hongkong. Rev. F. T. Johnson was the officiating clergyman. Among those present were the bride's mother, Mrs. Dick-Melbourne; the Chief Justice, Sir Henry S. Berkeley, and Lady Berkeley; His Honour T. Sercombe Smith, Puisne Judge; Hon. E. H. Sharp, Attorney-General; Dr. J. M. Atkinson and Mrs. Atkinson, Mr. F. Paget Hett, Mr. R. Harding and Mr. A. R. Lowe. The bride was given away by her brother, Mr. C. D. Melbourne. She wore a dress of grey chiffon with hat to match and carried a beautiful bouquet of white flowers. Mr. E. R. Hallifax, Deputy Superintendent of Police, was best man. After the ceremony, Mr. A. G. Ward, organist, played Mendelssohn's "Wedding March," and a wedding peal was rung on the Cathedral bells. A reception was held afterwards in the Hongkong Hotel. The newly-married pair left by the *Heungshan* for Macao on their honeymoon.

The s.s. *Shahzada* underwent a steam trial on the 28th ult. and took up her berth for Saigon. It will be remembered that this vessel was recently purchased by local Chinese from the Asiatic Steam Navigation Co. of Calcutta, and after repeated breakdowns reached Amoy in a disabled state. The owners then placed the matter in the hands of Messrs. Bailey and Murphy, consulting engineers and shipbuilders, and Mr. Bailey went to Amoy and was successful in bringing the vessel to his firm's works for a general overhaul. On account of the repeated breakdowns of the engines the Government Marine Surveyor before granting a passenger certificate insisted upon a four-hours' full-power sea trial, and this was carried out to his entire satisfaction, the engines being pressed their utmost during the whole period without showing any defect. The *Shahzada* is 306 feet in length and was built in 1879 by Harland and Wolff; she is a wonderfully well preserved vessel, the frames and plates of iron being but little worn. The speed attained was 11 knots, the engines indicating 1,400 horse power. The *Shahzada* is commanded by Captain Martin.



The *China Review* learns that Dr. Peter Quincey, a graduate of the Hongkong Medical College, and a son of Captain Quincey, the Chief of the Native Police, Tientsin city, has been appointed to the medical staff of the coolie emigration department and leaves shortly on one of the transports for South Africa.

Ah King is building several new one-design yachts, 30ft. over-all by 5ft. 9in beam. They will have keel and centre-board, and be cutter rigged. Mr. E. M. Hazeland, it is said, is the designer. Some understood to be ordering them are Messrs. Badeloe (1), F. Howell (1), Donald, Bains, and Delaney (1) maybe the police, and others. Each boat is estimated to cost \$300.

There is a good deal of discontent being expressed among the Indian and Chinese police who are at present stationed in the matched quarters near the Hongkong Club pending the extension of the Central Station. Before going on duty, on the low levels most of them, they have to climb up to the Central and attend parade; and on completing their patrols they have again to return to the Central to report themselves off, thus adding considerably to the time they are on duty. This difficulty could be easily met, surely, by having an inspector or a sergeant at the matched to give the men their instructions for the day and to take their reports when they "knock off."

In Praya East on the 26th ult. the passengers on one of the electric cars were astonished to see the motorman suddenly apply the brake and jump off his car in evident pursuit of someone. He attempted to seize a coolie on the pathway, but the latter dodged and ran up Nullah Lane with the motorman in full chase. It appeared that the car man's ire had been aroused because the coolie had refused to get out of the way of the car despite the warning bell. He eventually captured the delinquent. But during these ten minutes of excitement the unfortunate passengers, most of them hurrying to business, were left sitting helpless in the stationary car. It may be an offence to obstruct a car, but it is equally an offence surely for a motorman to leave his platform.

The adults on board a passenger sampan lying alongside Blake Pier came ashore, leaving on board as sole occupant a child just able to crawl about the deck. Left to itself, the infant started out on an exploring voyage all over the boat, and ended up by tumbling into the sea. There were many sampans lying round about, but, as is customary in such cases, the people in them paid no heed to the cries of the drowning child. It so happened that a ricksha-coolie was passing along the Praya with his vehicle, containing a European fare; when he saw the little fellow's plight he immediately dropped the ricksha shafts and sprang into the sea to the rescue. Swimming out, he got hold of the child and was successful in getting it on board the sampan again, greatly to the relief of the parents, who by this time had arrived on the scene. Police Sergeant Caygill, who was on duty in the district, on hearing the particulars of the case reported the matter at the Central Station and recommended the coolie for a reward for his plucky conduct.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Lawrence Mallory, which took place at the Government Civil Hospital on the 28th ult. Mr. Mallory was 58 years of age. He was admitted to hospital only on the day previous to that on which he died; the immediate cause of death was pneumonia. The news of his sudden demise will come as a shock to his many friends in the Colony's European community, of which he was one of the best known figures. It is only a few days ago that he might have been seen going about, to all appearance in his usual robust and cheery good health. Mr. Mallory was one of the oldest residents in the Colony, having come to Hongkong more than twenty years ago. He carried on business as a timber merchant in Kowloon and though he had frequently to contend with times of stress he succeeded in building up a flourishing concern, a fitting consummation to a long and honourable business career. He was an enthusiastic Freemason, and only a month or so ago was installed as Deputy Grand Master of the District Grand Lodge. Mr. Mallory was of a sociable and kindly nature and his loss will be regretted by all who knew him. The funeral (Masonic) took place the following day.

The following Volunteer promotions have been notified: Corporal H. A. Lammert to be sergeant; Corporal H. Gidley to be sergeant; Bombardier A. McKirdy to be corporal; Gunners S. Gidley and T. Grimshaw to be bombardiers.

Volunteers newly joined at Hongkong are Messrs. V. Sorby, E. Pellow, J. H. Penfold, J. Marshall, H. F. Pearson, F. C. Hurley, V. Watson, J. H. Barrington, S. Kelly, W. F. Cullen, and J. Ross. Gunners E. G. Smith and P. Jameson have resigned.

About the middle of next month there will be published a new book by Mr. J. Dyer Ball, of the Supreme Court, entitled "Macao, the Holy City, the Gem of the Orient Earth." Mr. Dyer Ball's ability to deal with such a subject does not require to be enlarged upon.

Messrs. Shewan, Tomes & Co. will probably move into their new building, St. George's Building, next week. They will occupy the first and second floors, and two large rooms, facing the sea, on the ground floor. Messrs. Blackhead & Co. will occupy the east part of the ground floor; and Messrs. Gibb, Livingston and Co. the top floor.

The 15th day of the 8th moon, or the Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival Day, better known among the Europeans as the Feast of Lanterns fell on Sept. 24. The Chinese call it the *Chung Chow*, or the day for the worshipping of the moon. After the New Year's Day, it is considered the most important national *fete* day. As usual there was a large display of flags and banners at daytime and general illumination at night, especially in the China town.

The attention of a group of Europeans was drawn the other morning in Queen's Road to a case of unnecessary force being used towards a police prisoner. A burly Indian constable had a puny boy in custody—apparently on a charge of illicit hawking, for the boy carried a can of peanuts in one hand. Not content with holding the boy by the queue in the usual way, the constable had his fingers twisted into it right up to the roots of the hair, so that at every step the little fellow winced. The Indian policeman ought to be cautioned against the employment of unnecessary harshness in their treatment of prisoners.

#### MISCELLANEOUS.

During Rajah Brooke's absence in Europe, the administration of Sarawak will be in the hands of his son and successor, Vyner Brooke, the Rajah Muda of the State.

Mr. Norman Cullen, employed by the *Japan Daily Advertiser*, has been found. His "mysterious disappearance" from Tokyo, where he had been visiting a friend, was reported with misgivings based on the poor state of his health. He was found lying unconscious in Ueno Park, all classes of the community, with the exception of non-commissioned officers and soldiers, both European and native, will be compelled to pay an annual fee of Rs. 20 before they are granted a licence to shoot game of any sort in India.

The King has granted unto Mr. Cecil Arthur Verner Bowra his Royal licence and authority that he may accept and wear the Insignia of the First Class of the 3rd Division of the Imperial Chinese Order of the Double Dragon, which has been conferred upon him by the Emperor of China in recognition of valuable services rendered by him.

A petition is being submitted at Calcutta to the Viceroy by domiciled Europeans, Eurasians and the Indian community of British India regarding the proposed game laws draft Bill which was recently published by the Government of India. The chief section in the Bill to which the petitioners object is that in which

Captain Kilvert, of the *Foxton Hall*, told a *Times of Ceylon* reporter that he had been sworn to secrecy by the Russian tribunal at Port Arthur. The oath was a comprehensive one, for it binds the captain not only to keep silence about the state of Port Arthur, but also with regard to any detail of the *Foxton Hall* incident. The Russians paid heavy damages to the owners. The captain said: "I don't know on what basis our bill was made out, but it was for much less than the sum paid; what was paid included the expenses of the crew, Government charges, and various other dues."

The *N.-C. Daily News* says the news of the death of Mrs. Smedley comes as a great blow to her many friends. She left Shanghai for Switzerland in February last, taking her two youngest daughters with her, the other two unmarried daughters being in Chefoo with their brother. Great sympathy is felt with all her children in this second heavy loss that they have sustained.

It is understood at Peking that following the rise in local postage rates which has been made by the Imperial Post, an effort will be made to persuade the Powers having post offices in Peking and the ports to abolish the same. The Powers, of course, will refuse to do this. These foreign post offices in Peking are used merely in the sense of field posts and by a few civilians of the respective nationalities, the Legations sending their mail through the Chinese Imperial Post.

The *Asahi* says that Mr. Francis McCullagh, who was for some time connected with the *Japan Times*, and afterwards edited a Russian paper in Port Arthur, was slightly wounded during the fighting at Liaoyang. The *Asahi's* Chefoo correspondent states, on the authority of an English war correspondent, that during the first three days' fighting at Liaoyang, the foreign war correspondents with the Russian Army were allowed by General Kuropatkin to remain in the firing line. In addition, three of them were granted the privilege of inspecting the engagement from a balloon, at which the Japanese troops fired, with the result that Mr. McCullagh, who was representing the *New York Herald*, had his fingers wounded.

The Hon. W. T. Taylor, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary of the Straits, has become plain Mr. Taylor on assuming the appointment of Resident-General F.M.S. Another opportunity surely presents itself now for altering the form of address for His Majesty's representative in the Malay States. It has been urged that he should be styled "His Excellency," and we can see no good reason why he should not. And, would it be too much to ask that the prefix "Honourable" be conferred on members of the States' Councils?—*Perak Pioneer*.

We must protest against the publication, by our esteemed and usually reliable contemporary the *N.-C. Daily News*, of the following item:—"The *Hongkong Daily Press* has a telegram dated London, the 12th inst., announcing the death of the Right Hon. James Lowther, M.P., Chairman of Committee and Deputy Speaker of the House of Commons." We had no such telegram. The Chairman of Committees is a young man in excellent health, and will, we trust, long retain his remarkable faculties. He is an ideal chairman; we speak with personal knowledge of him. What we did record was the death of the M.P. for Thanet. The mistake is perhaps a natural one; but we would like our contemporary to withdraw the statement that we were guilty of it.

The Japanese harbour launch *Pilot*, in search of pirates who infest the approaches to the harbour of Newchwang, recently came across eight boats in the vicinity of Woo-tai-tsu. Upon the launch approaching them it was fired upon by armed robbers from the boats. The occupants of the launch returned the fire wounding several of the robbers. Fortunately no one was hurt on the launch, but the hull, wheel-house, engine-room, skylight and deck fittings generally were riddled with bullets. The bullet used proved the weapons to be Mauser rifles and gingalls. The launch with Japanese gendarmes has left again for the locality, which is in the neighbourhood where Mr. Etzel, *Daily Telegraph* correspondent, met his doom. The only steamers in harbour are men-of-war and Japanese transports.

The *Foochow Echo*, mentioning that the local Amateur Dramatic Society has a small debit balance against it, adds:—"When a Society has once been faced by a debit balance it is apt to become callous and lose its sense of shame. Let us hope Foochow will support the funds of the A.D.C. as generously as it has done in the past, and all will be well. The great want is a brilliant burlesque for the Race week. If any of our readers are so inclined now is their opportunity. There should be no scarcity of rich material to work upon while we have such fascinating subjects at hand as Consuls and Camphor, Bridge and Billiards, and Griffins and Golf, Columbias and Santu, etc., etc."



The official in charge of the communications and despatches sent up to Peking from the Provinces committed suicide about three weeks ago, as an important despatch from Chang Chih-tung about Kweilin had been detained.

On the 3rd instant a private of the Manchester Regiment named Morrell had a quarrel with a comrade in the barrack-room at Singapore. The man got very excited and, suddenly seizing a bayonet, appeared to run amok as he attacked everyone in the barrack-room. He stabbed four men before he could be disarmed, and one of the victims is in a serious condition. The *Penang Gazette* says Morrell appears to be insane.

The Postmaster-General of the United States is credited with the ambition to establish penny postage between America and Europe. If he succeeds we may safely assume that universal penny postage will quickly follow, for Frenchmen and Germans and Englishmen would be unlikely long to tolerate the absurdity of charging twopence-halfpenny for letters exchanged with one another, while letters sent all the way across the Atlantic were only charged a penny.

We have to welcome still another China-side contemporary. It is the *China Review*, edited by C. L. Norris-Newman, F.R.G.S., and published at Tientsin. Of it the editor remarks that it started absolutely without one subscriber or one advertisement, and he hopes to increase and improve it day by day. Many advertisements "have already been proffered," but No. 4 contains none. They will be accepted as soon as possible. It is "an evening journal of men and matters," and quite Russophil.

The *Times of Malaya*, on the authority of private advices from Hongkong, says that since the departure of the first batch of coolies for the Rand from that Colony, several coolie guilds there have amalgamated with the object of preventing the despatch of any further batches of coolies for South Africa from the Canton provinces. Underlying this, it is believed that a very powerful guild is at work either in Singapore or Penang, the aim of which is to prevent coolies from going to South Africa from Hongkong, but their object is to get labour for service in the Straits Settlements and the F.M.S.

As the extreme stress of the hot season at Chungking has finished, the men belonging to H.M.S. *Kinsla* came down from their bungalow on the hills on the 29th August. Mr. H. E. Sly, our Consul, and Mr. W. C. H. Watson, the Commissioner of Customs at this port, also returned to the city at the end of August. Mr. Sly, says the Chungking correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News*, has been fortunate in obtaining his home furlough for 15 months. He will depart for the coast as soon as his relief, Mr. W. F. M. Russell, who has been appointed here as Acting-Consul, arrives. That will be about the end of October. We all heartily congratulate Mr. Sly, and our very best wishes and hopes for his return go with him. It is not likely, though, that he will be reappointed here. One period in a life-time in this part of the globe is sufficient for any ordinary man.

The Governor of Che-kiang has addressed a communication to the French Consul-General at Shanghai regarding a request made by a French merchant as to the formation of a steamboat company to run steam launches from Shanghai to Shao-hsin-fu in the inland waters of the province. The Governor has now received a report from the Customs Taotai at Ningpo stating that under instructions from the Government he has made a careful examination into the condition of the river at the place named and finds that not only is the water too shallow and the course of the river too winding to allow of the running of steamboats, but at Wu-lung-tan and Hsiao-tan-tsun the river is too narrow and the embankments will be damaged if steamboats run there. As it is clearly stipulated in the 4th article of the new Commercial Treaty between the British and Chinese Government that if the Chinese authorities find that the water in any river is too shallow for navigation they are at liberty to communicate with the foreign Consul concerned with a view to putting a stop to the same, the Chinese Government has therefore now the pleasure of communicating with the French Consul-General upon the matter, and hopes he will take steps to prevent it.—*Tientsin Times*.

The Emperor of China has issued a Decree deposing the present Dalai Lama and commanding the Panshen Lama of Tashilumbo (called by Reuter "Tashi Lama") to succeed the former in his spiritual dignities. Apropos, remarks a learned Chinese gentleman in a contemporary, the Panshen Lama, or to give him his full name Panshen Erdeni Lama, is co-Pontiff with the Dalai Lama, and to him is confided the supreme care of all religious affairs, whilst his colleague the Dalai Lama has charge of the secular affairs of Tibet. Tashilumbo (in Chinese Tsa-shihlum pu), meaning the "Blessed Mount," where the Panshen Lama resides, is about eight days' journey, or about 190 miles west of Lhasa.

Down to the end of 1903 the vital statistics of Samshui as regards the foreign community. Mr. Brennan, Acting Commissioner of Customs says, constitute a record. "There has been neither birth, marriage nor death since the port was opened, nearly seven years ago. There is no hospital, church, mission station nor cemetery; perhaps it ought to be added that there is no resident medical officer; what medical advice has been needed has been kindly and most efficiently given by the surgeons of the British gunboats on the station." The Commissioner adds that the climate of Samshui is certainly less trying than that of Canton. The country is open—every breath that blows reaches the settlement; this fact, and the absence of a large city population, no doubt, he says, explain the superior health conditions.

## COMMERCIAL.

### TEA.

Messrs. Welch, Lewis & Co. Shanghai, in their Circular, 19th September, state:—Our last Tea Market advices were under date 5th inst.:—Black Teas.—Very little business has been done since our last, about 3,000 half- chests of common shelly leaf Tea has been settled, shewing a rather stronger market. Settlements since our last advices:—

Ningchows—1,665 ½-chests at Tls. 17-21 p. picl.  
Oonam —1,443 " at Tls. 14½-16 "  
Oopack —2,215 " at Tls. 14½-15.60.  
Total arrivals to date:—29,377 half- chests against 36,510 half- chests same date last year. Total settlements to date:—20,122 half- chests against 22,180 half- chests same date last year. Green Tea.—During the interval prices have strengthened for "Fine" Country Tea, stocks of this grade are not allowed to accumulate as they are eagerly competed for as soon as shewn. There will be no further arrivals of Crack chops from the Moyune District, and with the exception of the four Crack chops "Lee Yik Hing" and one more chop of "Qiu Hung" arrivals of Crack chops from the Tienkai District will be practically at an end. The market for Common Tea is quiet, but we are unable to quote any decline in rates. Ping-suey.—Practically no business has been done in these Teas, a few second gunpowders have been settled at Tls. 32-35 per picul, no Settlements of chops have been made. The Stock which is nominally some 50,000 half- chests consists of Common to Medium Teas. Hyson.—We have had a very quiet market during the interval, Finest to Choice teas are exhausted, the Stock consists of Common to Medium grades, for which Tls. 23-28 is being asked for Common grades, and Tls. 36-44 for Medium quality. Foong Mee and Sou Mees:—No change to quote since our last; the market is quiet.

From commencement of Season the Export of Tea to Great Britain has been:—

|                     | Black, lbs. | Dust, lbs. | Green, lbs. |
|---------------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| Total to date, 1904 | 27,960,413  | 574,927    | 1,305,469   |
| " 1903              | 6,859,146   | —          | 1,902,070   |
| " 1902              | 5,081,653   | —          | 1,945,217   |

From commencement of Season the Export of Tea to the United States and Canada has been:—

|                     | Black, lbs. | Green, lbs. |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total to date, 1904 | 5,037,928   | 8,221,933   |
| " 1903              | 5,419,500   | 10,972,648  |
| " 1902              | 7,724,688   | 8,811,981   |

From commencement of Season the Export to other European ports:—

|                     | Black, lbs. | Brick, lbs. | Green, lbs. |
|---------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Total to date, 1904 | 20,143,423  | 2,305,466   | 874,003     |
| " 1903              | 2,369,435   | —           | 801,470     |
| " 1902              | 1,761,519   | —           | 698,941     |

From commencement of Season the Export of Black Tea direct to Russia:—

|               | Black, lbs. |
|---------------|-------------|
| To date, 1904 | 843,467     |
| " 1903        | 12,363,304  |
| " 1902        | 18,152,998  |

From commencement of Season the Export to Bombay and other ports:—

|               | Black, lbs. | Green, lbs. |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|
| To date, 1904 | 87,200      | 255,734     |
| " 1903        | 103,135     | 512,667     |
| " 1902        | 46,892      | 413,347     |

From commencement of Season the Export of Green Tea to Batoum and Novorossisk, &c.

|               | Green, lbs. |
|---------------|-------------|
| To date, 1904 | 3,396,932   |
| " 1903        | 5,021,665   |
| " 1902        | 5,614,103   |

The Export of Tea to Russian Manchuria via Port Arthur, Newchwang and Tientsin has been:—

|      | Black, lbs. | Brick, lbs. | Green, lbs. | Dust, lbs. |
|------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| 1904 | 2,433,602   | 3,670,544   | 105,733     | 104,034    |
| 1903 | 16,852,406  | 7,915,734   | 1,216,990   | 38,800     |
| 1902 | 12,265,635  | 3,613,650   | 1,280,293   | 590,686    |

HANKOW, 21st September.—The following statistics published under the direction of the Hankow General Chamber of Commerce, were dated 21st September. Business reported since the 13th inst. is as under:—

|                                         | 1904. | 1903. |
|-----------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Settlements...                          | 4,626 | 868   |
| Shipments to Shanghai on Native account | 5,705 | 3,436 |

The following are the statistics at date compared with the corresponding circular of last season, viz., 23rd September, 1903:—

|                                         | 1904.     | 1903.     |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| HANKOW TEA.                             | ½-Chests. | ½-Chests. |
| Settlements...                          | 583,841   | 536,090   |
| Shipments to Shanghai on Native account | 16,325    | 25,577    |
| Stock                                   | 10,368    | 14,140    |
| Arrivals                                | 610,534   | 575,807   |
| KIUKIANG TEA.                           | ½-Chests. | ½-Chests. |
| Settlements...                          | 195,538   | 190,682   |
| Shipments to Shanghai on Native account | 18,037    | 13,017    |
| Stock                                   | —         | 793       |
| Arrivals                                | 213,575   | 204,492   |

The export of Tea from Hankow to 10th instant, as per Customs Returns stands thus:—

|                            | Re-exports.                   |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Season 1904 × 1905         | 43,424,564 lbs.               |
| " 1903 × 1904              | 37,174,624 "                  |
| " 1902 × 1903              | 36,262,217 "                  |
| Via Shanghai.              | Total 1904/5. Total 1903/4.   |
| To Great Britain           | 6,333,901 lbs. 6,174,516 lbs. |
| " United States and Canada | 3,808,552 " 4,116,106 "       |
| " Continent                | 4,237,039 " 1,884,381 "       |
| " Russia in Europe         | 107,190 " 13,210,167 "        |
| " do. via North            | — " 19,862,435 "              |
| " Shanghai                 | 4,466,369 " 4,286,456 "       |

### SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 30th Sept.—The position is the same as when last reported.

|                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Shekloong, No. 1, White | \$8.35 to \$8.40 pcls. |
| Do. " 2, White          | 7.45 to 7.50 "         |
| Do. " 1, Brown          | 6.00 to 6.05 "         |
| Do. " 2, Brown          | 5.90 to 5.95 "         |
| Swatow, No. 1, White    | 8.30 to 8.35 "         |
| Do. " 2, White          | 7.40 to 7.45 "         |
| Do. " 1, Brown          | 5.80 to 5.85 "         |
| Do. " 2, Brown          | 5.60 to 5.65 "         |
| Foochow Sugar Candy     | 12.45 to 12.50 "       |
| Shekloong "             | 10.50 to 10.55 "       |

### RICE.

HONGKONG, 30th Sept.—The downward tendency continues, market being dull.

|                                 |                  |
|---------------------------------|------------------|
| Saigon, Ordinary                | \$2.25 to \$2.30 |
| " Round, good quality           | 2.50 to 2.55     |
| " Long                          | 3.70 to 3.75     |
| Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2 | 2.45 to 2.50     |
| " Garden, " No. 1               | 3.45 to 3.50     |
| " White,                        | 3.95 to 4.00     |
| " Fine Cargo                    | 4.10 to 4.15     |

### OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 29th Sept.—Quotations are:—

|                      | Allowance net to 1 catty. |                      |
|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Malwa New            | \$1080                    | to \$1130 per picul. |
| Malwa Old            | \$1140                    | to \$1180 do.        |
| Malwa Older          | \$1260                    | to \$1280 do.        |
| Malwa V. Old         | \$1300                    | to \$1320 do.        |
| Persian fine quality | \$380                     | to — do.             |
| Persian extra fine   | \$910                     | to — do.             |
| Patna New            | \$1100                    | to — per chest.      |
| Patna Old            | 5 —                       | to — do.             |
| Benares New          | \$1067½                   | to — do.             |
| Benares Old          | \$1060                    | to — do.             |



## PIECE GOODS.

Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade Report, dated Shanghai September 22nd, states:—Piece Goods.—The extraordinary manner in which this market has been denuded of goods of all descriptions during the last few weeks has upset all calculations. The Japanese demand noted in our last continued until a few days ago, when the Government withdrew orders unexecuted. So far as we can learn the actual shipments made of American goods alone amounted to 3,900 bales Sheetings and Drills, while 1,000 bales more are awaiting shipment. We give below some of the prices at which they were turned over by the second hand holder. It was anticipated that stocks would be greatly diminished in the ordinary course of trade, but no one thought any such demand would be occasioned by the military operations in the North, and no one was prepared to meet it. It must have been a perfect blessing to some holders of hitherto almost immovable materials, while now record prices have been obtainable. Most of the goods are going direct to Japan, although some are destined to be shipped to Corea, for the Ports of which there is a good enquiry for tonnage; but it is only inadequately supplied by the occasional service of one small German steamer, the space in which would-be shippers are almost invariably told is fully engaged. Trade on the mainland is in a very quiet state at the moment as is usually the case during the harvest season, and just before the Mid-Autumn Festival, which is an important settling day and falls on the 24th inst. Money is also very dear, and just at the time too when it is required to pay for the produce of the land. The situation at Newchwang does not appear to have been relieved yet and trade is at a standstill. Tientsin is exceedingly dull, and Hankow has had another blow owing to the failure of some of her export hongas. Nevertheless clearances all round have continued good and buyers of cargo to arrive are making themselves a bit of a nuisance with their constant enquiries as to whether the invoices have been received. Meanwhile the Manchester market keeps very firm, and is well supplied with a constant stream of orders of all descriptions, in spite of dearer prices and inconvenient deliveries. On the other hand there are still makers to be found who can accommodate with moderate supplies for fairly prompt shipment. Cotton in Liverpool has fluctuated considerably during the interval, but at the close is quoted four points below last week, namely 6.70d. for Mid-American while Egyptian is up an eighth to 7½d. Advice from the States report a strong market, with a quiet but steady business continuing for China. Cotton Flannel for shipment next Spring is still receiving some attention. The enquiry for Yarns has quieted down, Indian spinnings showing a decline of about two taels all round. Japanese are, however, steady to firm, the buyers here having placed themselves in the hands of the spinners and are forced to pay up. Local Yarn is steady, but Cotton is easier, seed being obtainable at \$9.75, a week or two ago. It is coming in plentifully and is of satisfactory quality.

## MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 9th September.—The prices ruling are as follows:—

| COTTON YARN—               |                      | per bale |
|----------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20, ...  | \$ 90.00 to \$128.00 |          |
| English—Nos. 16 to 24, ... | 114.00 to 120.00     |          |
| " 22 to 24, ...            | 120.00 to 128.00     |          |
| " 28 to 32, ...            | 136.00 to 142.00     |          |
| " 38 to 42, ...            | 155.00 to 170.00     |          |

Reported sales 5,000 bales.

| COTTON PIECE GOODS—                         |              | per piece |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------|-----------|
| Grey Shirtings—6 lbs. ....                  | 2.20 to 2.30 |           |
| 7 lbs. ....                                 | 2.35 to 2.50 |           |
| 8.4 lbs. ....                               | 3.20 to 4.10 |           |
| 9 to 10 lbs. ...                            | 4.10 to 5.50 |           |
| White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd. ...            | 2.90 to 3.10 |           |
| 58 to 60 " ...                              | 3.20 to 3.75 |           |
| 64 to 66 " ...                              | 4.00 to 5.50 |           |
| Fine ..... 6.20 to 8.25                     |              |           |
| Book-folds ..... 5.50 to 8.20               |              |           |
| Victoria Lawns—12 yards ...                 | 0.80 to 1.10 |           |
| T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y. ...         | 2.25 to 2.50 |           |
| 7lbs. (32 " ), " ...                        | 2.75 to 3.00 |           |
| 6lbs. (32 " ), Mexs. ...                    | 2.25 to 2.75 |           |
| 7lbs. (32 " ), " ...                        | 3.00 to 3.25 |           |
| 8 to 8.4 oz., (36 in.) ...                  | 3.20 to 4.00 |           |
| Drills, English—40 yds., 13½ " to 14 lbs. ) | 5.25 to 8.00 |           |

## FANCY COTTONS—

|                                     |              |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|
| Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs. ) | 1.80 to 3.90 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|

## FANCY COTTONS—

|                            | per yard     |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Brocades—Dyed .....        | 0.13 to 0.14 |
| Damasks .....              | — to —       |
| Chintzes—Assorted .....    | 0.09 to 0.17 |
| Velvets—Black, 22 in. .... | 0.23 to 0.45 |
| Velveteens—18 in. ....     | 0.21 to 0.27 |

|                              | per dozen    |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk | 0.45 to 0.75 |

## WOOLLENS—

|                               | per yard     |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops  | 0.70 to 2.50 |
| German .....                  | 0.80 to 0.75 |
| Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths | 1.00 to 3.50 |

|                               | per piece      |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Long Ells—Scarlet, 7-10 lbs.  | 7.80 to 9.50   |
| Assorted .....                | 7.95 to 9.85   |
| Camlets—Assorted .....        | 12.50 to 33.00 |
| Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches ) | 13.00 to 22.00 |
| Assorted .....                |                |
| Orleans—Plain, 31 in. ....    | 10.00 to —     |

|                            | per lb.      |
|----------------------------|--------------|
| Blankets—8 to 12 lbs. .... | 0.70 to 0.80 |
| Fine quality .....         | — to —       |

## METALS—

|                               | per picul |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Iron—Nail Rod .....           | 4.05 to — |
| Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.) | 4.05 to — |
| Swedish Bar .....             | 4.10 to — |
| Small Round Rod .....         | 4.50 to — |
| Hoop ½ to 1½ in. ....         | 6.20 to — |
| Wire, 16/25 oz. ....          | 9.50 to — |
| Wire Rope, Old .....          | 3.00 to — |

## METALS—

|                                | per picul  |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Lead, L.B. & Co. and Hole Chop | 8.30 to —  |
| Australian .....               | 8.30 to —  |
| Yellow M'tal—Muntz 14/20 oz.   | 39.50 to — |
| Vivian's 14/20 oz.             | 39.50 to — |
| Elliot's 14/20 oz.             | 39.50 to — |
| Composition Nails .....        | 61.00 to — |
| Japan Copper, Slabs .....      | 38.50 to — |
| Tin .....                      | 80.00 to — |

|                  | per box.  |
|------------------|-----------|
| Tin-Plates ..... | 7.40 to — |

|                    | per cwt. cases |
|--------------------|----------------|
| Steel ½ to ¾ ..... | 5.90 to —      |

|                   | per picul   |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Quicksilver ..... | 152.00 to — |

|                    | per box   |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Window Glass ..... | 4.50 to — |

## MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

HANKOW, September 24th, 1904.—The prices quoted are for the net shipping weight excluding cost of packing for export:—

|                                                        | Per picul. |
|--------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Cowhides, best selected .....                          | Tls. 33.00 |
| Do. seconds .....                                      | 29.00      |
| Buffalo hides, best selected .....                     | 19.50      |
| Goatskins, untanned (chiefly white colour) ..          | —          |
| Buffalo Horns (average 3lbs. each) .....               | 9.00       |
| White China Grass (Wuchang and or Poochi) .....        | 12.00      |
| White China Grass (Sinshan and/or Chayu) .....         | 11.00      |
| Green China Grass (Szechuen) .....                     | 12.00      |
| Jute .....                                             | 5.00       |
| White Vegetable Tallow (Kinchow) ..                    | 10.50      |
| White Vegetable Tallow (Pingchew and/or Macheng) ..... | 10.30      |
| White Vegetable Tallow (Mongyu) ..                     | —          |
| Green Vegetable Tallow (Kiyu) .....                    | 11.00      |
| Animal Tallow .....                                    | 9.00       |
| Gallnuts (usual shape) .....                           | 19.00      |
| Do. (Plum) do. ....                                    | 20.00      |
| Black Bristles .....                                   | 116.00     |
| Feathers (Grey and or White Duck) ...                  | 20.50      |
| " " Wild Duck .....                                    | 21.75      |
| Turmeric .....                                         | 3.20       |
| Sesamum Seed .....                                     | 4.30       |
| Sesamum Seed Oil .....                                 | 7.90       |
| Vegetable Tallow Seed Oil .....                        | 7.80       |
| Wood Oil .....                                         | 7.50       |
| Tea Oil .....                                          | 9.00       |

Per steamer *Glaucus*, sailed on 15th September. For London:—50 bales waste silk, 2,000 cases preserves, 854 bags copper matte, 60 cases M. O. P. shell, 10 boxes essential oil, 123 casks soy, 11 cases bristles, 500 casks preserves, 2 cases cigars, 11 packages private effects, 1,100 cases preserves, 208 bales feathers. For Liverpool:—1 case cigars. For Glasgow:—100 casks ginger. For London or Continent:—3 cases shells, 1 case bamboos, 27 bales bamboos, 220 bales canes, 100 cases cassia. For London or Glasgow:—550 casks preserves, 2,320 cases preserves. For London, Liverpool or Antwerp:—49 casks soy. For London or Manches-

ter:—150 bales waste silk. For London, Hamburg or Antwerp:—60 cases bristles. For Amsterdam or Rotterdam:—12 packages tea. For Rotterdam, Amsterdam, Hamburg or London:—4 cases cantharides, 100 cases cassia. For London, Amsterdam or Rotterdam:—800 cases preserves. For Bremen or Hamburg:—50 casks preserves. For Amsterdam:—220 casks preserves, 235 rolls matting, 8 cases chinaware. For Rotterdam:—500 cases preserves, 200 casks preserves.

Per steamer *Idomeneus*, for Genoa, Marseilles and Liverpool, sailed on 20th September. For Liverpool:—58 packages staves, 50 bales hemp, 220 bales waste silk, 17 packages sundries, 100 bales mats. For Buenos Ayres:—1,077 packages tea. For Manchester:—100 bales waste silk, 1 case cigars. For Marseilles:—39 bales human hair, 8 bales hides, 200 bamboos, 200 bales hemp, 120 packages tea, 50 bales chinaroot. For Genoa:—350 bales waste silk. For Marseilles or Havre:—125 cases cassia, 25 cases gallnuts. For Odessa:—100 cases cassia. For Valencia:—100 cases cassia. For Trieste:—100 bales waste silk. For Salonica:—4 bales hides.

Per P. & O. steamer *Nubia*, sailed on 24th Sept. For London:—448 packages tea from Amoy, 8 packages tea from Foochow, 11 cases silks, 20 bales raw silk, 25 cases bristles 90 rolls mats, 2 cases human hair, 4 cases cigars, 5 cases sundries. For Gibraltar:—1 case curios. For Manchester:—51 bales waste silk. For London or Manchester:—100 bales waste silk. For Lyons:—122 bales raw silk. For Marseilles:—82 bales raw silk, 1 case Pongies.

## AMOY CUSTOMS RETURNS.

SEPTEMBER 27TH, 1904. List of the principal goods passed through the Amoy Custom House from 17th September to 23rd Sept., 1904:—

## IMPORTS.

| Goods.                         | QUANTITY     |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| Cotton Raw, Indian .....       | pls. —       |
| " " Native .....               | " —          |
| " Yarn .....                   | " 2,016      |
| Shirtings, Grey .....          | pcs. —       |
| T-Cloths .....                 | " 1,083      |
| Shirtings, White .....         | " 361        |
| T. Red Shirtings .....         | " 3          |
| Drills .....                   | " 2          |
| Shirtings Dyed, Brocades ..... | " 42         |
| " Dyed .....                   | " 1          |
| Damasks .....                  | " —          |
| Camlets .....                  | " 199        |
| Lasting .....                  | " 7          |
| Spanish Stripes .....          | yds. —       |
| Lustres, Figured .....         | " —          |
| Lead, in pigs .....            | pls. —       |
| Tin, in slabs .....            | " —          |
| Iron, Nail rod .....           | " —          |
| Quicksilver .....              | " 23         |
| Iron, Old .....                | " 209        |
| Ironwire .....                 | " 10         |
| Rice .....                     | " 11,260     |
| Opium, Patna .....             | " 1          |
| " Benares .....                | " 42         |
| " Persia .....                 | " 28         |
| " Malwa .....                  | " 1          |
| " Szechuan .....               | " 61         |
| " Yunnan .....                 | " 91         |
| " Kiangsu .....                | " —          |
| Sesamum Seed .....             | " 407        |
| Sapanwood .....                | " —          |
| Sandalwood .....               | " —          |
| Rattans .....                  | " 12         |
| Wheat .....                    | " 5,500      |
| Flour .....                    | " 2,250      |
| Beancake .....                 | " 27,600     |
| Beans and Peas .....           | " 30,381     |
| Bicho de Mar .....             | " 113        |
| Mats Tea .....                 | pcs. 36,000  |
| Oil, Kerosine American .....   | gals. 20,000 |
| " " Borneo in bulk ...         | " —          |
| " " Bumarh .....               | " 10,000     |
| " " Sumatra .....              | " —          |
| " " Bulk .....                 | " 133,145    |
| Coal .....                     | tons. —      |
| Tobacco Leaf .....             | pls. 2,086   |
| Vermicelli .....               | " 729        |

## EXPORTS

| Goods.                      | QUANTITY   |
|-----------------------------|------------|
| Sugar, White .....          | pls. —     |
| " Brown .....               | " —        |
| " Candy .....               | " 494      |
| Hemp Bags .....             | pcs. 4,000 |
| " Sacking .....             | " —        |
| Paper I Quality .....       | pls. 1,067 |
| " II .....                  | " 216      |
| Tobacco, Prepared .....     | " 377      |
| Kittysols (umbrellas) ..... | pcs. 1,200 |



## SHARE REPORT.

HONGKONG, 30th September, 1904.—The full reported in our last as having set in proved of short duration, and with the passing of the Chinese Harvest Moon Festival, a satisfactory settlement reported from Shanghai, and the completion of our own monthly settlement, satisfactorily, we are again able to report an active and strong market. Indo-Chinas and Sugars still occupy most of the attention of operators; a fair general business, however, has been transacted during the week at steady rates, and the market generally closes active and firm.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have changed hands in fair lots at \$650, closing with further small buyers at that rate. The London rate has improved to £67. Nationals continue in demand at \$39 to \$40 without sales.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions are enquired for at \$605. China Traders have found buyers at \$61 and \$60½, closing with buyers at the latter rate. Cantons have been placed at \$240, and more shares are wanted at that rate. It has been decided, subject to the approval of shareholders, to pay a dividend of \$7 per share for 1903 account, to place \$100,000 to reserve, to credit of reinsurance fund \$25,000, and to carry forward \$150,000. North Chinas and Yangtszes remain unchanged and without business.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Both Hongkongs and Chinas have changed hands in unimportant lots at quotations.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have been the medium of a fair business at \$28½, and close with further buyers at that rate. Indo-Chinas, after further sales at \$124, advanced to \$127, only to recede again almost immediately to \$124; at time of writing, however, the rate is firmer and sales have been effected to-day at \$125 and \$126; market closes at \$126 buyers. On time shares have changed hands in fair lots at \$128 and \$129 for December, \$129 and \$130 for February, and at \$130 and \$131 for March. China Manilas have ruled neglected at \$26½ with no sales. Star Ferries are on offer at \$41 old and \$31 new with no sales to report. Shell Transports continue steady at 24/6 with sales, and close at 25s. with probable buyers. Douglasses have declined to \$32 ex div. of \$2 paid on the 28th inst.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have experienced another big boom, and the rate has risen to \$232; a demand both for cash and forward has existed all through the week, and cash holders have been loth to part with their holdings; forward, however, a good business has been transacted at from \$220 to \$230 for December, \$225 to \$235 for March, and at equivalent rates for January, February and April; market closes firm at \$232 cash with buyers, and probably a higher rate would be paid were shares forthcoming.

MINING.—No change or business to report.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have ruled somewhat quieter with small sales at \$225 cash and at \$225 for February; at time of writing a demand at \$235 exists. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves have been enquired for in small odd lots at \$113 to \$115, but very few shares were obtainable, and since the books of the Company have closed for transfer of shares in connection with the new issue, the demand has moderated; shares could, however, be freely placed at \$113. New Amoy Docks unchanged. Farnhams have been an erratic market, rates varying from \$177½ to \$193; at time of closing a local demand exists at \$181.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have declined to \$151 without business, and sellers still rule the market. West Points have also receded to \$6½ with sellers. Humphreys have found buyers at \$12.75, and more shares are wanted at that rate. Hongkong Hotels remains steady with small sales at \$136. Kowloon Lands unchanged and without business.

COTTON MILLS.—The market continues utterly neglected, and without any change in rates.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands continue in demand at \$31, and in the absence of shares a slightly higher rate would doubtless be paid. A. S. Watsons have been placed at \$15 and \$14.75, closing with buyers at \$14.50 and sellers at \$15, cum new issue; Electrics, both old and new, are on the market at \$15 and \$9½ respec-

tively without finding buyers; Ices are enquired for at \$250, and Steam Water Boats at \$22. Light and Powers have changed hands at \$10 and Watkins at \$9½. We have expunged the Canton Ice and Cold Storage Company, Limited, from our list, as the flotation of the Company appears to have failed.

MEMOS.—Union Insurance Society's ordinary yearly meeting on 20th October. Transfer books close from 10th till 20th October. A. S. Watson & Co.'s transfer books close till 8th October. Canton Insurance Office ordinary general meeting on 21st October; transfer books close from 7th to 21st October.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

| COMPANY.                                                     | PAID UP. | QUOTATIONS.                            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------------------------------------|
| <b>Banks—</b>                                                |          |                                        |
| Hongkong & S'hai...                                          | \$125    | { \$650, sales & sel.<br>{ L'don, £67. |
| Natl. Bank of China                                          |          |                                        |
| A. Shares .....                                              | 28       | \$39, buyers                           |
| B. Shares .....                                              | 28       | \$39, buyers                           |
| Foun. Shares...                                              | 21       | \$10, buyers                           |
| <b>Insurance—</b>                                            |          |                                        |
| Union .....                                                  | \$100    | \$605, buyers                          |
| China Traders .....                                          | \$25     | \$61.                                  |
| North China .....                                            | 25       | Tls. 72½, buyers                       |
| Yangtsze .....                                               | \$60     | \$140.                                 |
| Canton .....                                                 | \$50     | \$240, buyers                          |
| Hongkong Fire .....                                          | \$50     | \$332½, sales                          |
| China Fire .....                                             | \$20     | \$87, sales & buyers                   |
| <b>Steamship Coys.—</b>                                      |          |                                        |
| H., Canton and M...                                          | \$15     | \$28½ sales & buyers                   |
| Indo-China S. N. ...                                         | 210      | \$126, buyers                          |
| China and Manila...                                          | \$50     | \$26½, sellers                         |
| Douglas Steamship                                            | \$50     | \$32, ex div., sellers                 |
| Star Ferry .....                                             | \$10     | \$41, seller                           |
| " .....                                                      | \$5      | \$31, sellers                          |
| <b>Shell Transport and</b>                                   |          |                                        |
| <b>  Trading Co. ....</b>                                    | 21       | 25/- buyers.                           |
| <b>Do. pref. shares...</b>                                   | 210      | £8. 10s.                               |
| <b>Refineries—</b>                                           |          |                                        |
| China Sugar .....                                            | \$100    | \$232, buyers                          |
| Luzon Sugar .....                                            | \$100    | \$6, sellers                           |
| <b>Mining—</b>                                               |          |                                        |
| Charbonnages .....                                           | Fcs. 250 | \$490.                                 |
| Baubs .....                                                  | 18. 10d. | \$6½, sellers                          |
| <b>Docks, Etc.—</b>                                          |          |                                        |
| H. & W. Dock .....                                           | \$50     | \$225, buyers                          |
| H. & K. Wharf & G.                                           | \$50     | \$113, buyers                          |
| New Amoy Dock ...                                            | \$6½     | \$27½, sellers                         |
| S. C. F. Boyd & Co...                                        | Tls. 100 | Tls. 131, buyers                       |
| <b>Land and Building—</b>                                    |          |                                        |
| Hongkong Land Inv.                                           | \$100    | \$151, sales & sellers                 |
| Kowloon Land & B.                                            | \$30     | \$39.                                  |
| West Point Building                                          | \$50     | \$60, sales                            |
| Hongkong Hotel .....                                         | \$50     | \$136, sales                           |
| Humphreys Estate. {                                          | \$10     | \$12.75, buyers                        |
| " .....                                                      | \$2½     | \$5.                                   |
| S'hai Land Ins. Co., Ld.                                     | Tls. 50  | Tls. 113, buyers                       |
| <b>Cotton Mills—</b>                                         |          |                                        |
| Ewo .....                                                    | Tls. 50  | Tls. 30, sellers                       |
| International ...                                            | Tls. 75  | Tls. 25.                               |
| Laou Kung Mow ...                                            | Tls. 100 | Tls. 32½.                              |
| Soychee .....                                                | Tls. 500 | Tls. 160, sellers                      |
| Hongkong .....                                               | \$10     | \$11½, sellers                         |
| Green Island Cement.                                         | \$10     | \$31, buyers                           |
| China-Borneo Co., Ld.                                        | \$12     | \$11, buyers                           |
| Watson & Co., A. S...                                        | \$10     | \$14½, buyers                          |
| Hongkong Electric {                                          | \$5      | \$9½, sellers                          |
| " .....                                                      | \$10     | \$160, buyers                          |
| Hongkong & C. Gas...                                         | \$10     | \$140, sellers                         |
| Fenwick & Co., Geo.                                          | \$25     | \$47, sellers                          |
| Hongkong Ice .....                                           | \$25     | \$250, buyers                          |
| H. H. L. Tramways...                                         | \$100    | \$300.                                 |
| Hk. Steam Water-<br>Boat Co., Ld. ....                       | \$10     | \$22, buyers                           |
| Dairy Farm .....                                             | \$6      | \$22, buyers                           |
| Campbell, Moore & Co.                                        | \$10     | \$37, buyers                           |
| Bell's Asbestos E. A...                                      | 12/6     | \$5, buyers                            |
| United Asbestos .....                                        | \$4      | \$9½, buyers                           |
| Do. ....                                                     | \$10     | \$180.                                 |
| Tebrau Planting Co...                                        | \$5      | \$1.                                   |
| China Prov. L. & M...                                        | \$10     | \$9½, sellers                          |
| Watkins, Ld. ....                                            | \$10     | \$9½, buyers                           |
| China Light & Power<br>Co., Ld. ....                         | \$10     | \$10, sales                            |
| Powell, Ld. ....                                             | \$10     | \$11.75, ex div sales                  |
| Shanghai and Hong-<br>kong Dyeing and<br>Cleaning Co., Ld. } | \$50     | \$50.                                  |
| <b>Companies—</b>                                            |          |                                        |
| Alhambra Limited.                                            | \$500    | \$150, sellers                         |
| Phippine Tobacco }                                           | \$10     | \$9½, sellers                          |
| Trust Co., Ld. }                                             |          |                                        |
| Steam Laundry Co., }                                         | \$5      | \$7, sellers                           |
| Ld. ....                                                     |          | \$3½, buyers                           |
| S. C. Morning Post ...                                       | \$25     | \$19½.                                 |

VERNON & SMYTH, Brokers.

## EXCHANGE.

MONDAY, 3rd October.

|                                          |              |
|------------------------------------------|--------------|
| <b>ON LONDON.—</b>                       |              |
| Telegraphic Transfer .....               | 1/10         |
| Bank Bills, on demand .....              | 1/10½        |
| Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight .....      | 1/10½        |
| Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight .....     | 1/10½        |
| Credits, at 4 months' sight .....        | 1/10½        |
| Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight ..... | 1/10½        |
| <b>ON PARIS.—</b>                        |              |
| Bank Bills, on demand .....              | 231          |
| Credits 4 months' sight .....            | 234½         |
| <b>ON GERMANY.—</b>                      |              |
| On demand .....                          | 187½         |
| <b>ON NEW YORK.—</b>                     |              |
| Bank Bills, on demand .....              | 44½          |
| Credits, 60 days' sight .....            | 45½          |
| <b>ON BOMBAY.—</b>                       |              |
| Telegraphic Transfer .....               | 137          |
| Bank, on demand .....                    | 137½         |
| <b>ON CALCUTTA.—</b>                     |              |
| Telegraphic Transfer .....               | 137          |
| Bank, on demand .....                    | 137½         |
| <b>ON SHANGHAI.—</b>                     |              |
| Bank, at sight .....                     | 71½          |
| Private, 30 days' sight .....            | 72½          |
| <b>ON YOKOHAMA.—</b>                     |              |
| On demand .....                          | 90½          |
| <b>ON MANILA.—</b>                       |              |
| On demand—Pesos .....                    | 90           |
| <b>ON SINGAPORE.—</b>                    |              |
| On demand .....                          | 5½ p.c. p.m. |
| <b>ON BATAVIA.—</b>                      |              |
| On demand .....                          | 110½         |
| <b>ON HAIPHONG.—</b>                     |              |
| On demand .....                          | 1½ p.c. p.m. |
| <b>ON SAIGON.—</b>                       |              |
| On demand .....                          | 1½ p.c. p.m. |
| <b>ON BANGKOK.—</b>                      |              |
| On demand .....                          | 62           |
| SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate .....     | \$10.85      |
| GOLD LEAF, 130 fine, per tael .....      | \$57.10      |
| GAR SILVER, per oz. ....                 | 26½          |

## TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 23rd September.—There has been a very good demand for tonnage all round during the past fortnight. From Saigon to Hongkong; 22 cents offerin' for ready medium sized carriers to Philippines, 35 cents last; to Java, 34 cents; to Japan, 47½ cents per picul. Bangkok to Hongkong, several suitable steamers could be placed at 34 and 28 cents per picul. Java to Hongkong, 30 cents per picul offering for wet and/or dry sugar; to Japan, 45 cents. From Hongkong to Newchwang, 50 cents per picul last and offering. Newchwang to Canton, nothing doing. Coal freights remain firm. From Moji to this, \$2 last and offering; to Singapore, \$2.50; to Manila, 3.50. Time charters. The *Dott* and *Emma Luyken* have been chartered for local account. A large number of steamers have been closed up north. The following are the settlements:—  
*Amara*—British steamer, 1,566 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.20 per ton.  
*Petrarch*—German steamer, 1,252 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.10 per ton.  
*Onsang*—British steamer, 1,787 tons, Moji or Kuchinotzu to Hongkong, \$2 per ton.  
*Nanshan*—British steamer, 1,299 tons, Kuchinotzu to Hongkong, \$2 per ton.  
*Heimdal*—Norwegian steamer, 763 tons, Wakamatsu to Swatow, \$2.50 per ton.  
*Carl Mensell*—German steamer, 984 tons, Hongkong to Newchwang, 50 cents per picul.  
*Pooshing*—British steamer, 1,423 tons, Hongkong to Chefoo and Newchwang, \$16,000 in full.  
*Ravn*—Norwegian steamer, 795 tons, Hongkong to Kobe, 28 cents per picul.  
*Hopsang*—British steamer, 1,359 tons, Saigon to Kobe, 45 cents per picul.  
*Telemachus*—British steamer, 1,340 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 19 cents per picul.  
*Kurin*—Swedish steamer, 698 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 20 cents per picul.  
*Chwenshan*—British steamer, 1,232 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines (42,000 piculs), 32 cents per picul.  
A China Navigation Co.'s steamer, Saigon to one port Philippines (36,000 piculs), 32 cents per picul.  
A China Navigation Co.'s steamer, Saigon to one port Philippines (32,000 piculs), 35 cents per picul.  
*Kweiyang*—British steamer, 1,011 tons, Saigon to Iloilo (30,000 piculs), 35 cents per picul.  
A China Navigation Co.'s steamer, Saigon to one port north coast Java, 30 cents per picul.  
*Dott*—Norwegian steamer, 629 tons, monthly, a months, at \$6,000 per month.



## SHIPPING.

## ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

September—

## ARRIVALS.

23, Alacritty, British d.b., from Weihaiwei.  
 23, Haimun, British str., from Coast Ports.  
 23, Kohsichang, German str., from Bangkok.  
 23, Malta, British str., from Bombay.  
 23, Merionthshire, British str., from Foochow.  
 23, Nubia, British str., from Shanghai.  
 24, Kwongsang, British str., from Shanghai.  
 24, Marie Jebben, German str., from Moji.  
 24, Mansang, British str., from Sandakan.  
 24, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Canton.  
 24, 'aishan, British str., from Sourabaya.  
 24, Tean, British str., from Manila.  
 24, Tjimahi, Dutch str., from Amoy.  
 24, Triumph, German str., from Coast Ports.  
 25, Alcinous, British str., from Liverpool.  
 25, Dagmar, German str., from Bangkok.  
 25, Emma Luyken, Ger. str., from Tjilatjap.  
 25, Halaban, Dutch str., from Singapore.  
 25, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.  
 25, Wuhu, British str., from Saigon.  
 26, Bayern, German str., from Yokohama.  
 26, C. A pear, British str., from Calcutta.  
 26, Legaspi, American str., from Manila.  
 26, Loongmoon, German str., from Canton.  
 26, Nicomedia, German str., from Portland.  
 26, Pera, British str., from London.  
 26, Tydeus, British str., from Shanghai.  
 26, Viking, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.  
 26, Yuensang, British str., from Manila.  
 26, Zafiro, British str., from Manila.  
 26, Apenrade, German str., from Haiphong.  
 26, Thales, British str., from Amoy.  
 27, An Pho, British str., from Saigon.  
 27, Austria, Austrian str., from Kobe.  
 27, Decima, German str., from Moji.  
 27, Emprs. of China, Brit. str., from Vancouver.  
 27, Esang, British str., from Canton.  
 27, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.  
 27, Kiukiang, British str., from Swatow.  
 27, Shansi, British str., from Wuhu.  
 27, Tungshing, British str., from Canton.  
 27, Yochow, British str., from Yangtze.  
 27, Zieten, German str., from Hamburg.  
 28, Andree Rickmers, Ger. str., from Bangkok.  
 28, Athenian, British str., from Vancouver.  
 28, Benvenue, British str., from London.  
 28, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Canton.  
 28, Clavering, British str., from Salina Cruz.  
 28, Deucalion, British str., from Liverpool.  
 28, Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.  
 28, Lilia, British str., from Saigon.  
 28, M. Struve, German str., from Tamsui.  
 29, Attaka, British str., from Canton.  
 29, Formosa, British str., from Yokohama.  
 29, Hong Bee, British str., from Singapore.  
 29, J. Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Pakhoi.  
 29, Kaifong, British str., from Iloilo.  
 29, Kwongsang, British str., from Canton.  
 29, Onda, British str., from Moji.  
 30, Cheangchow, British str., from Singapore.  
 30, Chingtu, British str., from Kobe.  
 30, Elg, Norwegian str., from Iloilo.  
 30, Glenogle, British str., from Singapore.  
 30, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.  
 30, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.  
 30, Huron, British str., from Moji.  
 30, Iltis, German gunboat, from Pakhoi.  
 30, Rosario, British sloop, from practice.  
 30, Taming, British str., from Manila.  
 30, Urlanda, British str., from Rangoon.

October—

1, Borneo, German str., from Sandakan.  
 1, Chunsang, British str., from Moji.  
 1, Johanne, German str., from Haiphong.  
 1, Kiukiang, British str., from Canton.  
 1, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Canton.  
 1, Kwangtah, Chinese str., from Shanghai.  
 1, Laertes, British str., from Saigon.  
 1, M. Rickmers, German str., from Bangkok.  
 1, Promise, Norwegian str., from Bangkok.  
 2, Carl Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Hoihow.  
 2, Choyang, British str., from Shanghai.  
 2, Courtfield, British str., from Durban.  
 2, Devawongse, German str., from Bangkok.  
 2, Providence, Norwegian str., from Anping.  
 2, Purnea, British str., from Singapore.  
 2, Taiyuan, British str., from Australia.  
 2, Wuhu, British str., from Canton.

September—

## DEPARTURES.

22, Iltis, German g-bt., for Hoihow.  
 23, Hinsang, British str., for Sourabaya.  
 23, Kansu, British str., for Canton.  
 23, Karin, Swedish str., for Saigon.

23, Korat, German str., for Bangkok.  
 23, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.  
 23, Phranang, German str., for Bangkok.  
 23, Siam, British str., for Singapore.  
 23, Sungkiang, British str., for Cebu.  
 23, Tsintan, German str., for Bangkok.  
 24, Australian, British str., for Moji.  
 24, Haimun, British str., for Tamsui.  
 24, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.  
 24, Malta, British str., for Shanghai.  
 24, Melita, French str., for Tourane.  
 24, Merionthshire, British str., for London.  
 24, Nubia, British str., for Europe.  
 24, Pakling, British str., for London.  
 24, Rubi, British str., for Manila.  
 25, Frithjof, Norwegian str., for Tamsui.  
 25, Hailan, French str., for Hoihow.  
 25, Hellas, German str., for Yokohama.  
 25, Independent, German str., for Nagasaki.  
 25, Inkum, British str., for Chefoo.  
 25, Kwongsang, British str., for Canton.  
 25, Lydia, German str., for Takao.  
 25, Pitsanulok, German str., for Amoy.  
 25, Tremont, American str., for Manila.  
 26, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Canton.  
 26, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Shanghai.  
 26, Sishan, British str., for Newchwang.  
 26, Tyr, Norwegian str., for Hongay.  
 27, Alcinous, British str., for Shanghai.  
 27, Doric, British str., for San Francisco.  
 27, Halaban, Dutch str., for Tientsin.  
 27, Samsen, German str., for Bangkok.  
 27, Taiwan, British str., for Shanghai.  
 27, Trongate, British barque, for Sourabaya.  
 27, Tungus, Norwegian str., for Kiautschou.  
 28, Bayern, German str., for Europe.  
 28, Elis Rickmers, German str., for Bangkok.  
 28, Esang, British str., for Tientsin.  
 28, Laissang, British str., for Calcutta.  
 28, Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.  
 28, Shansi, British str., for Canton.  
 28, Tean, British str., for Manila.  
 28, Thales, British str., for Coast Ports.  
 28, Tjimahi, Dutch str., for Macassar.  
 28, Triumph, German str., for Coast Ports.  
 28, Tungshing, British str., for Shanghai.  
 28, Tydeus, British str., for London.  
 28, Zieten, German str., for Shanghai.  
 29, Apenrade, German str., for Hoihow.  
 29, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.  
 29, Dagmar, German str., for Bangkok.  
 29, Hue, French str., for Haiphong.  
 29, Legaspi, American str., for Manila.  
 29, Shahzada, British str., for Saigon.  
 30, Formosa, British str., for London.  
 30, Hohnstein, German str., for Saigon.  
 30, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.  
 30, Iltis, German gunboat, for Canton.  
 30, Kansu, British str., for Swatow.  
 30, Kwongsang, British str., for Shanghai.

October—

1, An Pho, British str., for Saigon.  
 1, Austria, Austrian str., for Trieste.  
 1, Deucalion, British str., for Vancouver.  
 1, Hongbee, British str., for Amoy.  
 1, Isla de Negros, for Manila.  
 1, Marie Jebben, German str., for Moji.  
 1, Pera, British str., for Shanghai.  
 1, Rander Reunion, British str., for Saigon.  
 1, Sabine Rickmers, British str., for Saigon.  
 1, Taishan, British str., for Amoy.  
 1, Urlanda, British str., for Yokohama.  
 1, Zafiro, British str., for Manila.  
 2, Avala, British str., for Saigon.  
 2, Benvenue, British str., for Yokohama.  
 2, Cheangchow, British str., for Amoy.  
 2, Glenogle, British str., for Rangoon.  
 2, Haitan, British str., for Coast Ports.  
 2, Huron, British str., for Bangkok.  
 2, Kwangtah, Chinese str., for Canton.  
 2, M. Struve, German str., for Tamsui.  
 2, Queen Elizabeth, British sh., for Sydney.  
 2, Shawmut, American str., for Tacoma.

## PASSENGER LIST.

## ARRIVED.

Per Nubia, from Shanghai, for Hongkong, L. Bredon and infant, Messrs. Du Doguon, W. C. Barratt, J. L. Buckley, Terebrenick, G. Ross, Gasai, Gordon, and Wrigley; for Bombay, Mr. M. E. Hussun; for Marseilles, Capt. James and Mr. V. Wanosky; for London, Messrs. W. Hulme, James Buckley, and Woolcock.

Per Malta, for Hongkong, from London, Dr. J. A. Chalmers and Mr. G. Bird; from Marseilles, Messrs. H. Barnett and H. L. Gar-

nett; from Port Said, Mr. and Mrs. Atkinson; from Bombay, Major and Mrs. Thompson and Mr. Jahanger Kothari; from Colombo, Dr. W. Heron; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Poland, Miss Mitchell, Messrs. Macmillan and C. W. Derbyshire; for Shanghai, from London, Rev. and Mrs. C. Hamsey, Miss Bowman, Messrs. G. N. Courtney, Jas. Smith, P. Reilly, and Tom Smith; from Marseilles, Mr. A. Piry; from Bombay, Miss A. M. Forbes and Mr. F. A. S. Forbes; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Poultney; for Yokohama, from London, Mr. J. P. Carr.

Per Bayern, from Yokohama, Mr. and Mrs. K. Majima, Messrs. Bover and A. S. W. Conslan; from Kobe, Mr. Hackerton; from Nagasaki, Capt. von Mangelsdorf; from Shanghai, Mrs. Griffith, Mr. and Mrs. Blumfield, Mrs. Mary, Mrs. Spindel, Mrs. C. Weidmann, Mr. and Mrs. Cohen, Dr. R. H. Hawkes, Messrs. B. de Reinsch Werth, H. Mears Hobbs, S. Schwartz, Samuel V. Derr, S. Halle, Vaughan Robinson, Hariton, O. Grunwald, C. Lopez, T. Hirsch, A. Walmas, and Madison.

Per Empress of China, from Vancouver, Mr. and Mrs. Holyoak, Mrs. H. T. Richardson and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. E. Edwards, Mrs. J. Beck, Major R. J. Ross, Misses H. Sleemin and A. Goldman, and Mr. E. J. Ware; from Yokohama, Dr. and Mrs. Layng and child, Mr. and Mrs. J. Stevenson, Mr. and Mrs. C. Yeguchi, Capt. W. A. Harrison and Jones, Messrs. H. B. S. Robertson, W. R. Robertson, S. Yanagida, R. L. Elliott, and H. H. Allen; from Kobe, Major Caulfield, Messrs. E. Mieres, E. Nicholls, C. W. Staughton, and A. Hills; from Shanghai, Mrs. E. W. Mills, Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Williams and child, Messrs. F. D. Cheshire, H. Kruse, and R. Schwabe.

Per Zieten, from Hamburg, Mr. and Mrs. Lants and child, Mr. and Mrs. Schultz, Mrs. Bishop, Mr. and Mrs. Robinson, Mrs. Korros and infant, Revs. Dalout and Cardoso, Drs. Rochner and Loeive, Misses Leoudous and Margot Christophersen, Messrs. P. S. R. Bishop, N. von Allen, Harry Rosenberg, P. S. R. Bishop, A. Denison, A. Kopp, Alfred May, Dobroroohl, C. V. Bradley, and P. Rose.

## DEPARTED.

Per Nubia, from Hongkong, for Bombay, Lee, Cpl Smith; for Brindisi, Dr. and Mrs. J. D. Griffith; from Shanghai, for Bombay, Mr. M. L. Hussim; for Marseilles, Capt. L. James and Mr. V. Wanosky; for London, Messrs. N. Hulme, James Buckley, and R. Woolcock.

Per Doric, for San Francisco, &c., Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Perkins, Mrs. Chapman, Messrs. J. C. Dufresne, R. Schneiderwind and son, Paul Meyer, J. F. McGrail, and W. B. Burlingame; for China and Japan ports, Mrs. S. F. Lamb, Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Beverley, Mr. and Mrs. E. Ehrig, Mrs. J. Lyons, Mrs. W. Danel, Mrs. J. Howard, Mrs. Seymour, Messrs. J. H. Kothari, C. W. Mead, E. F. Spethman, N. J. Cito, H. Shiraki, Serabrenk, S. N. Karangie, W. F. McLaughlin, and F. Gordon.

Per Bayern, from Hongkong, for Bremen, &c., Mr. and Mrs. D. O. Bekking and children, Mr. and Mrs. J. Blank, Mr. and Mrs. W. Epst-in, Mr. and Mrs. Fraissinet and children, Mr. and Mrs. Cameron Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. v. d. Linde, Mr. and Mrs. B. T. Ricketts and children, Mrs. B. Sterbens, Mrs. C. H. Wilson and children, Rev. Froehlich, Capt. Horst, Misses Ruby Fabris and Vogel, Messrs. V. Atienza, J. Bay, G. Bodewell, Ernst Buhler, Cooper, N. Cullen, A. Daniels, R. Evans, Ing. Fabig, H. Garsick, Fritz Hinselmann, A. Roaloe, F. Jantzen, Koenitz, F. C. van Lelyveld, E. Liese, H. J. Monod, Thomas Morison, Kaizo Nakano, Y. Nishide, K. Nomura, Candida Ontanon, W. M. Pochin, P. Sorhagen, S. Torii, J. L. Watson, Wurker, and Rev. A. C. Barroso Pereira.

Per Zieten, for Shanghai, Mrs. H. Droese, Mrs. Barrington, Misses Forster and Monroe, Messrs. J. Bruins, T. Corry, S. S. Sallich, K. Campos, G. Ricci, J. Hersch, Corb, Fajak, P. Deronzier, and I. B. Senna; for Nagasaki, Mrs. Okani; for Yokohama, Mr. P. Berentzon.

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